Iowa Chess News

En Passant

Volume 55, Issue 2 Iowa State Chess Association March 2015

PATRON MEMBERS

Randy Bauer, John Carl Beydler, Mark Capron, Ana Denison, Christine Denison, Carl Dunn, Rex Gray, David Harrison, Christopher Harrison, Eva Harrison, Gerald Hawkins, Michael Heimbaugh, Thomas Hesse, James Hodina, Mark Kende, Ben Munson, Samuel Naylor VI, Ron Nurmi, Steve Patterson, Dr. Carl Peters, Richard Rector, Arshaq Saleem, Gokul Thangavel, Samathi Thangavel, Robert Vance, Eric Vigil, Mitch Weiss, Borlaug Chess Club, Weber Chess Club

The name of Patron members will be listed in every issue of En Passant. The extra money will be added to the IASCA budget and spent as the membership directs.

Long time Patron Members: Sam Naylor (Left) and Former IASCA President Carl Dunn (Right)

April 11. 2015 Iowa Class E and Below Championship. Open to U1200 or Unrated. 5 -SS, G/30 d5. Grubb YMCA, 1611 11th St, Des Moines, 50314. **Reg:** 9:00 am to 9:45am **Rds:** Saturday 10am, 11am, Lunch 12:30pm and ASAP **EF:** $15. **Prize Info:** Trophies top 2 overall in each class E thru J and Unrated. **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** Eric Vigil, 445 Galway Dr, Iowa City, IA 52246 or register online at www.onlineregistration.cc or Register by email: evigil@gmail.com. Additional Info: Ph: 319-621-3116; 3 round Open section G45 d5 for players above 1200 Free, No prizes (donations for rating fees accepted) .

Apr. 11 Rivermont Collegiate Open in conjunction with the Illowa Bi-State Chess Club 3-SS, G60 d5. Open and U1400 sections. Rivermont Collegiate 1821 Sunset Drive, Bettendorf, IA 52772 Reg: 8:00AM to 9:00AM. Rds: Round 1 starts at 9:00. EF: $20 cash or check. If possible, let Gary Nordick know in advance that you plan to participate. Prizes: All monies returned as prizes after expenses. USCF Membership Required. Send EF to: Gary Nordick , 309.798.4060 Gary.Chess@mediacombb.net Additional Info: 3rd round ½ point bye requests before start of round 1 only. Other rounds before start of round 2. Maximum of one ½ point bye request. Additional requested byes will be zero point. In the event of a bye in both sections, if a house player is not available, a cross section pairing will be done. The reserve section player will get credit for a full point bye while the actual outcome will count for the open section player. In this case, the reserve section player is functioning as a house player. Snacks, pop, pizza, baked goods will be available for sale. If you have any questions, contact Gary Nordick. A poster and parking map are available at http://quadcitychess.com/ Directions: This event will be held in the lower school hallway, maybe a couple lower school classrooms, or maybe even the library. There could be a bit of noise leakage from the scholastic activities.

Apr. 11. Rivermont Collegiate Scholastic in conjunction with the Illowa Bi-State Chess Club. This event is open to all chess players from Kindergarten through 12th grade. All that is required is enough knowledge of chess to play the game. That is, you don't have to be an expert. Rivermont College 1821 Sunset Drive Bettendorf, IA 52772. Reg: 8:00AM to 9:00AM TimeControl: G20, d0. Rds: Round 1 starts at 9:00. EF: $5 cash or check. If possible, let Gary Nordick know in advance that you plan to participate. Prizes: All players will receive a chess memento. Top three in K-4, 5-8, 9-12 will receive trophies. If there are enough entrants we will break it down even finer and add another set of three trophies to the mix. USCF Membership Required: Yes IASCA Membership Required: No Send EF to: Gary Nordick , 309.798.4060 Gary.Chess@mediacombb.net Additional Info: Snacks, pop, pizza, baked goods will be available for sale. If you have any questions, contact Gary Nordick. A poster and parking map are at http://quadcitychess.com/ Directions: This section will play in the open area of Becherer Hall, so there will be a bit of background noise.

Apr. 17. 2015 Okoboji Blitz. 5-SS. G/5, d0. Come play in the best small town tournament in America! Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center 1405 Highway 71 S, Okoboji, IA 51355. Reg: 5:00PM to 9:30PM. Rounds: Round 1 starts at 9:30 or 1/2 hour after Round 1 of the Okoboji Open and Reserve conclude. Rounds 2 -5 ASAP. EF: $10 if received by April 1st (or April 15th online). $15 on site. Prizes: 1st Place - $75; U1300 $25 (b/10) USCF Membership Required. Send EF to: Jodene Kruse 934 6th Street, Sibley, IA 51249. jodene77@yahoo.com Additional Info: One half -point bye allowed if requested in advance. Register online at https://www.onlineregistration.cc. $79 Hotel rate if reserved by April 1st. Call the Arrowwood resort at 1-800-727-4561.

Apr. 17-19. 9th Annual Okoboji Open (IASCA GP Qualifier). 5-SS. Come play in the best small town tournament in America! Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center, 1405 Highway 71 S, Okoboji, Iowa 51355. Reg: 5:00PM to 5:45PM Friday. TimeControl: 5 Round Swiss G/120, d5 for all rounds in the 3 day option. 2 day option has G/90, d5 for rounds 1 and 2 and G/120 for rounds 3-5. Sections merge after round 2. Rds: 3 day option: Friday 6:00pm; Saturday 9:00am, 4:30pm; Sunday 9:00am; 2:30pm. 2 day option: Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm-4:30pm; Sunday 9:00am; 2:30pm. 2 and 3 day options merge after round 2. EF: $50 if received by April 11th (or April 15th online). $60 cash or $65 check onsite. GM's and IM's free entry. $25 entry fee to anyone who is or has ever been rated over 2200 when registered by April 1st. Prizes: Top 3 (guaranteed) $500+Trophy-$350-$150. U2000, U1800, U1600 $80-$50. (b/30) USCF Membership Required, IASCA Membership Required ($15, $10 jr or sr). Send EF to: Jodene Kruse 934 6th Street Sibley, IA 51249

jodene77@yahoo.com Additional Info: (Other states memberships accepted). One half-point bye allowed if requested in advance. Register online at https://www.onlineregistration.cc. $79 Hotel rate if reserved by April 1st. Call the Arrowwood resort at 1-800-727-4561.

Apr. 17-19. 9th Annual Okoboji Reserve (Under 1600). 5-SS. Come play at the best small town tournament in America! Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center 1405 Highway 71 S, Okoboji, IA 51355. Reg: 5:00PM to 5:45PM Friday. Time Control: G/120, d5 for all rounds in the 3 day option. 2 day option has G/90, d5 for rounds 1 and 2 and G/120 for rounds 3-5. Sections merge after round 2. Rds: 3 day option : Friday 6:00pm; Saturday 9:00am,4:30pm; Sunday 9:00am; 2:30pm. 2 day option: Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm-4:30pm; Sunday 9:00am; 2:30pm. 2 and 3 day options merge after round 2. EF: $30 if received by April 11th (or online by April 15th). $40 cash or $45 check onsite. Prizes: Top 3 (guaranteed) $300+Trophy-$100-$50; U1400 & U1250: $75-50; U1000 : $50 (b/20) USCF Membership Required. Send EF to: Jodene Kruse 934 6th Street, Sibley, IA 51249. jodene77@yahoo.com Additional Info: One half-point bye allowed if requested in advance. Register online at https://www.onlineregistration.cc. $79 Hotel rate if reserved by April 1st. Call the Arrowwood resort at 1-800-727-4561.

May 2. $1000 Wellsburg Open (IASCA Mini Qualifier) 4-SS. G/75; d5. Wellsburg Reformed Church 617 E 4th St Wellsburg, IA 50680. Reg: 8:15AM to 8:45AM. Rounds: 9:00, 12:15, 3:00, 5:45 or ASAP EF: $50 On or before April 30th, $55 after or onsite. Prizes: Open Prizes ($1000 Guaranteed) 1st place: $400; 2nd place: $250; 3rd place: $150; U2000 and U1800: $100 each. USCF Membership Required. IASCA Membership Required ($15, $10 Jr or Sr.) Send EF to: Bethany Carson 15898 D Avenue Ackley, IA 50601 bethany.carson@outlook.com Additional Info: Free Wi-Fi. Free parking. Quiet location. Casey's pizza will be delivered after the first round. The tournament room is spacious, and there are skittles rooms downstairs for relaxing and bughouse. Please bring your set, board, and clock. Directions: From Highway 20 take exit 187. Turn south onto N Wells/Hwy 214. Turn east onto E 4th St/D25. Wellsburg Reformed Church will be on your left.

May 2. Wellsburg Reserve U1600. 4-SS. G/75; d5. Open to players rated U1600. Wellsburg Reformed Church 617 E 4th St Wellsburg, IA 50680. Reg: 8:15AM to 8:45AM. Rounds: 9:00, 12:15, 3:00, 5:45 or ASAP. EF: $20 On or before April 30th, $30 after or onsite. Prizes: 1st: $150, 2nd: $100, Top U1400: $50 USCF Membership Required. Send EF to: Bethany Carson 15898 D Avenue Ackley, IA 50601 bethany.carson@outlook.com Additional Info: Free Wi-Fi. Free parking. Quiet location. Casey's pizza will be delivered after the first round. The tournament room is spacious, and there are skittles rooms downstairs for relaxing and bughouse. Please bring your set, board, and clock. Directions: From Highway 20 take exit 187. Turn south onto N Wells/Hwy 214. Turn east onto E 4th St/D25. Wellsburg Reformed Church will be on your left.

May 16-17. 2015 Ice Harbor Scholastic Open. A weekend Scholastic Open Tournament with Friday night Blitz, Saturday night Bughouse, and weekend friends & parents rated and unrated sections. Main Event: Five Sections (1) Grades K-3 Open, (2) K-6 Open, (3) K-6 U800, (4) K-12 Open, and (5) K-12 U1200. 80 Individual main event trophies, 15 Team x 3 players (45 total main event team trophies), 30 Blitz, & 40 Bughouse trophies. Grand River Center & Grand Harbor Resort and Water Park 500 Bell Street, Dubuque, IA 52404. Reg: 8:00AM to 9:30AM. Time Control: G/75 and G/45 Rounds: K-3 Open, K-6 U800 & K-12 U1200: 7 SS, G/45 d5, Sat 10, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30 pm, Sun 9:00, 11:00, 1:30; 3 byes available w/registration. K-6 & K-12 Open, 5SS, G/75 d5, Sat 10, 1:30, 4:30, Sun 9, 12:30; 2 byes available w/registration. EF: $45 if postmarked/paid online by 4/15, $50 by 5/1, $55 after 5/1. $60 on site. Prizes: TROPHIES (Main Event): Top 10 Individuals Overall all sections plus class trophies by section: K-3 Open Top 2 U600, U300, & UNR; K-6 Open Top 3 U1200 & U1000; K-6 U800 Top 2 U600, U300 & UNR; K12 Open Top 3 U1600 & U1400; K-12 U1200 Top 2 U900, U600, and UNR. Top 3 teams in each section (plaques for each player). USCF Membership Required. Send EF to: James Hodina 3411 Blue Pt. Ct. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404. 319-432-1459 james.hodina@chessiniowa.org. Additional Info: Hotel: The Grand Harbor Resort, $119 Chess Rate includes passes to water park. Rate guaranteed through April 11. Reservations phone (866)690-4006 and ask for the Ice

Continued on Page 6

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Table of Contents: **Page**

Tournament Life	2
Hello From the Editor	5
Puzzle Time	5
Annual Meeting Notes:	5
7th Annual Holiday Swiss	7
Iowa Girls Championship — Eric Vigil	9
Qualifier Points	10
Iowa Open Player Commitments	11
Spotlight On: Michael Takahashi	12
Denker and Barber Championships — Eric Vigil	14
Port of Dubuque — Eric Vigil	16
Annotations by Joseph Wan	20, 22, 24
Leatherjackets — Mark Capron	26
Arshaq Saleem Annotates	28, 30
Mark Capron Annotates	29. 33
Dan Brashaw Annotates	30
Robert Keating Annotates	31, 34, 36, 38
Jim Hodina Annotates	36
New & Returning Members	39

Join the Iowa State Chess Association!

The Iowa State Chess Association is a non-profit organization devoted exclusively to the promotion of chess in Iowa.

Join or renew by sending dues to the IASCA Secretary:

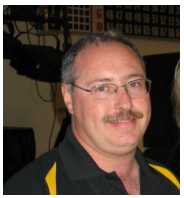
Ron Nurmi
1424 E. Walnut St. Apt. 4
Des Moines, IA 50316

Membership Dues:

Regular	$15 for 1 year
	$28 for 2 years
	$40 for 3 years
Junior (19 and Under) & Senior (65 and over):	$10 per year
Patron:	$25 per year
Affiliates:	$15 per year
Family:	$20 per year
Library:	$15 per year

Hello From the Editor:

Inside you will find contributions from: Ron Nurmi, Eric Vigil, Jim Hodina, Arshaq Saleem, Robert Keating, Michael Takahashi, Valeriy Kosokin, Bethany Carson, Joseph Wan, Thomas Hesse, Dan Brashaw and Mark Capron. All pictures from Eric Vigil except the Michael Takahashi picture which was from Gail Takahashi.



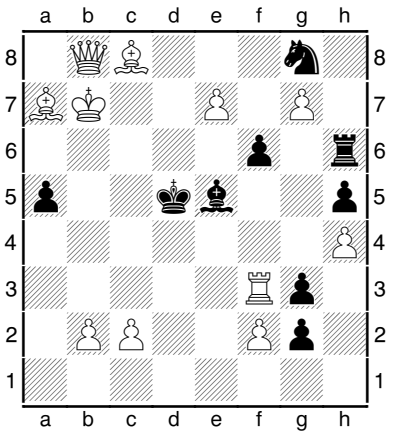
Congrats to Arshaq Saleem, James Neal, Robert Keating, Dan Brashaw, and Wesley Ferguson who ended the Qualifying Cycle with the most point and earn the right to take on Tim McEntee in the Iowa Closed Championship.

Inside you will find annotated games from Arshaq Saleem, Robert Keating, Joseph Wan, James Hodina, Mark Capron, and Dan Brashaw. There is an excellent report on the Inaugural Port of Dubuque from Eric Vigil.

The Iowa Open is starting to generate some high caliber competitors!

As always when you see chess news please submit it. —Mark Capron

Puzzle Time:



White to move and win in four

Annual Meeting:

The highlights were the re-election of Robert Keating and Bill Broich for Director at Large, Eric Vigil for President, and the appointments of Mathew Jacob as Clearinghouse, Christine Denison as the 2016 Delegate and Robert Vance as the 2016 Alternate Delegate.

A proposal to reduce the membership rates to a flat $10 a person when the *En Passant* goes online and $25 per patron membership which still comes with a printed copy of the *En Passant* was proposed and passed. It is likely that the EP will go online by the July issue.

Financially we decided to keep the Denker, Barber, and Girls representatives stipend at $400. The scholastic tournament are projected to cover the total cost and have a small surplus.

The general fund had a surplus of $510.52 mostly due to the 2014 Iowa Class and the scholastic 10% fee.

Continued from Page 3

Harbor Group Rate. On-site registration: Two registration periods On Site: 5/16: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm; 5/17: 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Online: https://www.onlineregistration.cc . WEBSITE: www.iceharborchess.com. EMAIL: James Hodina at james.hodina@chessiniowa.org. SIDE EVENTS: $5 per player/event. Blitz Chess: Fri 7:00 pm, 2 Sections: K-6 & K-12. 4 Rds, G/10 d5, Trophies K-12 & K-6: 1st-10th. Bughouse: Sat 7:30 pm, Two sections, K-6 & K-12. 7 Rds, 1 Game/Rd, G/5 d0, Trophies: K-12: 1st-10th & K-6: 1st-10th each player. Friends & Parents: Entry $5. 4 Rds, G/60 d5. 2 Sections, Rated and Unrated. RDS: Sat: 1:30 pm & 4:30 pm, Sun: 9 am & 1 pm. Register online at https://onlineregistration.cc. Check payable to Chess in Iowa c/o James Hodina 3411 Blue Pt. Ct. SW Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404.

May 30. 2015 May. 3-SS; G/30; d5. Open to all. One 1/2 bye allowed, players entering after the start of round 1 will receive a one 1/2 bye. Dahl's Foods 15500 Hickman Road Clive, IA 50325. Reg: 9:00AM to 9:45AM. Rounds: 10-11:30-1 EF: $10 Prizes: 1st place winner gets 70% of paid entries USCF Membership Required. Send Entry to: Mathew Jacob, mmjacob20@yahoo.com Additional Info: No smoking; wheelchair accessible; please bring your pen, set, clock, and board; Free parking; Interpreter provided. Write a check payable to Mathew Jacob or pay cash at site. Directions: Ask an employee where the meeting room is.

Jun 5. Burlington Bed and Breakfast Blitz. 9-SS. G/5; d2. Mississippi Manor Bed and Breakfast, 409 N 4th St Burlington, IA 52601. Reg: 6:00PM to 6:45PM. Rounds: Round 1 7:00PM all other rounds ASAP EF: $10 Prizes: Medals for 1st thru 5th, proceeds donated to Lutheran Social Services. USCF Membership Required. Send EF to: Eric G. Vigil 445 Galway Dr. Iowa City, IA 52246. 319-621-3116. evigil@gmail.com Additional Info: I think this is gonna be fun! We will be playing in a historic house from 1878. Pre-register by contacting Eric Vigil at evigil@gmail.com Please include Name, USCF ID #.

Jun 5-7. 2015 Burlington Open (IASCA GP Qualifier). 5-SS; G/90; i30. Open with Class prizes. Tbd Burlington, IA Reg: 8:30AM to 9:45AM. Rounds: 5 Rounds: Sat 10-2:30-7:30; Sun 9-2. EF: $45 if registered on or before 6/2/2015, $55 afterward or on-site. Register Online at https://www.onlineregistration.cc. All Open Prizes Guaranteed ($650). 1st Place = $150 + trophy; 2nd Place = $100; 3rd place = $75; U1800 = $100. USCF Membership Required. IASCA Membership Required ($15, $10 Jr. or Sr.) OSA. Send EF to: Eric G. Vigil 445 Galway Dr. Iowa City, IA 52246. 319-621-3116. evigil@gmail.com Additional Info: Location and some details to be determined.

Jun. 20-21. June (IASCA Qualifier) Open to all, 5SS; G/120, d5. One 1/2 bye allowed, players entering after the start of round 1 will receive a one 1/2 bye. Faith Baptist Bible College; room location: Gray Hall 104 (look for building #2); ask any employee where is the Gray Hall. 1900 NW Fourth Street, Ankeny, IA 50023 Reg: 9:00AM to 9:45AM. Rounds: Saturday 10-2:30-7:15; Sunday 1-5:30 EF: $40; college students $10; family/group $40; elementary and secondary students $10 Prizes: b/25: 1st = $220; 2nd = $215; 3rd = $210 USCF Membership Required. IASCA Membership Required ($15, $10 jr or sr.) Send Entry to: Mathew Jacob. mmjacob20@yahoo.com Additional Info: Other state memberships accepted; no smoking; wheelchair accessible; please bring your set, clock, and board. Free parking. Interpreter provided. Questions or comments to Mathew at mmjacob20@yahoo.com. Write a check payable to Mathew Jacob or pay cash at site.

Jul. 18. July (IASCA Mini-Qualifier) 4-SS; G/75, d5. Open to all. FFA Enrichment Center at the DMACC, Room 108 (ground floor; the room number may be changed when the tournament is closer to July 2015 I may post on iowa-chess.org where the room is.) 1055 SW Prairie Trail Parkway, Ankeny, IA 50023. Reg: 9:15AM to 9:45AM. Rounds: 10:00 - 12:45 - 3:30 – 6:15. One half-point bye allowed, players entering after the start of round 1 will receive one half-point bye. EF: $25; family/group $25; college students $10; elementary and secondary students $10 Prizes: Based on 25 entries. Open: 1st place - $160, 2nd place - $140, 3rd place - $120. USCF Membership Required. IASCA Membership Required ($15, $10 Jr or Sr.) Send Entry to: Mathew Jacob, mmjacob20@yahoo.com. Additional Info: Other state memberships accepted. Wheelchair accessible. No smoking. Free parking. A sign language/voice interpreter will be provided. Please bring your set, board, and clock. Write a check payable to Mathew or pay cash at site Directions: From Interstate 35 (I-35) Take I-35 either North or South to Ankeny. Take the Oralabor Road exit (same as airport) & Go West If you are coming from the north, this is a right turn If you are coming from the south, this

is a left turn. After driving about 2 miles, you will run into South Ankeny Blvd. Turn right onto South Ankeny Blvd. Turn left on DMACC Blvd. Turn right on SW Campus Court. From Interstate 80 (I-80) in Des Moines Take the 2nd Avenue exit north (Highway 415). Drive to Oralabor Road in Ankeny. Turn right on Oralabor Road. Turn left at the first stoplight DMACC Blvd. Turn left on SW Campus Court.

A State Championship Event!
Aug 28. 2015 Iowa Quick Chess Championship. Open to all. 6-SS, G/10, d2. Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241. **Reg:** 6 - 7 pm or in advance **Rds:** 7:15pm, 7:45, 8:15, 8:45, 9:15, 9:45 **EF:** $20 if postmarked by 8/24; $30 On Site; $5 off if out of state. IM and GM Free (EF deducted) **Prize Info:** $280 in PRIZES 1st = $100+Trophy 2nd = $60 U2000 = $40, U1600 = $40, U1200 = $40 (Based on 25 entries) **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245. or Register online at https://onlineregistration.cc/
Additional Info: The Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Chess rate available, $109 only until 8/14/15, rates may increase after this date. Pool, restaurant, more restaurants in walking distance. 319-688-4000.

<30 GPP>
A Heritage Event!
Aug 29-30. 61st Iowa Open Championship (USCF & FIDE Rated) IASCA GP Super Qualifier. 5-SS, G/90, i30. Accelerated pairings may be used in Rounds 1-2. IASCA Super GP Qualifier. Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241. We will be in the Exhibit Hall of the Conference Center this year!! No more smaller rooms!! **Reg:** 8:30am and ends at 9:30am **Rds:** Sat 10, 2:30, & 7:30; Sun 9:30 & 2:30 **EF:** $57 if postmarked before 8/24; $69 at site. IM & GM free-EF deducted from any prize, Jrs. & Sr. $10 off, $10 off Out of state residents. **Prize Info:** Prizes: ($1900 b/65 Top 3 Gtd) 550+T-300-150 U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600 150/75 each. **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On Site Available. **IASCA membership required**, ($15, $10 Jr. or Sr.) or Out of State Accepted (OSA). On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245 or register online at https://onlineregistration.cc/
Additional Info: USCF and FIDE Rated!! Byes: Bye available Rounds 1-3 if requested prior to start of round. Rounds 4-5 only if requested prior to tournament starting. USCF – August 2015 Rating List will be used for pairing purposes. FIDE rules will be used. Head Floor TD will be Bill Broich. Chess Magnet School JGP. Call 319-321-5435 or mcapron243@mchsi.com or broich01@yahoo.com **Directions:** Take I-80 to exit 242, go south to 9th street, take a left and follow to the end of 9th street and you are there! The Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Chess rate available, $109 only until 8/14/15, rates may increase after this date. Pool, restaurant, more restaurants in walking distance. 319-688- 4000.

A State Championship Event!
Aug. 29. 2015 Iowa Reserve Championship
Open to U1600. 4-SS, G/75 d5. Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241. We will be in the Exhibit Hall of the Conference Center this year!! No more smaller rooms!! **Reg:** On site 8:30-9:30am **Rds:** Sat: 10, (Lunch) 1:30, 4:30, & 7:15. **EF:** $30 if postmarked by 8/24; $40 at Site; Jrs, Srs, and Out of State $5 Off. **Prize Info:** $340 in PRIZES 1st = $140+Trophy 2nd = $90 3rd = $60 **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On-Site Available. **IASCA membership required**, $15, $10 Jr. or Sr. On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245 or register online at https://onlineregistration.cc/ **Additional Info:** Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241 Chess rate available, $109 only until 8/14/15, rates may increase after this date. Pool, restaurant, more restaurants in walking distance. 319-688- 4000. Chess Magnet School JGP.

Aug. 29, Rated Beginner Open (RBO)
Open to U1200 or Unrated. 5-SS, G/30 d5. Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241. **Reg:** 8:30 am to 10 am **Rds:** Saturday 10:30, 12, 1:30 and ASAP **EF:** $17 if postmarked before 8/24; $25 on site. $5 off for out of state. **Prize Info:** Trophies top 5 overall, U 1000, U800, U600, U400 and Unrated 1st and 2nd. **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245 or register online at https://onlineregistration.cc/ **Additional Info:** The Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Chess rate available, $109 only until 8/14/15, rates may increase after this date. Pool, restaurant, more restaurants in walking distance. 319-688- 4000.

Sep 26. 2015 September. 3-SS. G/30; d5. Open to all. One 1/2 bye allowed, players entering after the start of round 1 will receive a one 1/2 bye. Dahl's Foods 15500 Hickman Road Clive, IA 50325. Reg: 9:00AM to 9:45AM. Rounds: 10-11:30-1 EF: $10 Prizes: 1st place winner gets 70% of paid entries USCF Membership Required. Send EF to: Mathew Jacob , mmjacob20@yahoo.com Additional Info: No smoking; wheelchair accessible; please bring your pen, set, clock, and board; Free parking; Interpreter provided. Write a check payable to Mathew Jacob or pay cash at site Directions: Ask an employee where the meeting room is.

Oct. 31. 7th Annual Des Moines Classic (IASCA Mini-Qualifier) 4-SS; G/75, d5. Open to all. FFA Enrichment Center at the DMACC, Room 108 (ground floor; the room number may be changed when the tournament is closer to July 2015 I may post on iowa-chess.org where the room is.) 1055 SW Prairie Trail Parkway, Ankeny, IA 50023. Reg: 9:15AM to 9:45AM. Rounds: 10:00 - 12:45 - 3:30 – 6:15. One half-point bye allowed, players entering after the start of round 1 will receive one half-point bye. EF: $25; family/group $25; college students $10; elementary and secondary students $10 Prizes: Based on 25 entries. Open: 1st place - $160, 2nd place - $140, 3rd place - $120. USCF Membership Required. IASCA Membership Required ($15, $10 Jr or Sr.) Send EF to: Mathew Jacob, mmjacob20@yahoo.com. Additional Info: Other state memberships accepted. Wheelchair accessible. No smoking. Free parking. A sign language/voice interpreter will be provided. Please bring your set, board, and clock. Write a check payable to Mathew or pay cash at site Directions: From Interstate 35 (I-35) Take I-35 either North or South to Ankeny. Take the Oralabor Road exit (same as airport) & Go West If you are coming from the north, this is a right turn If you are coming from the south, this is a left turn. After driving about 2 miles, you will run into South Ankeny Blvd. Turn right onto South Ankeny Blvd. Turn left on DMACC Blvd. Turn right on SW Campus Court. From Interstate 80 (I-80) in Des Moines Take the 2nd Avenue exit north (Highway 415). Drive to Oralabor Road in Ankeny. Turn right on Oralabor Road. Turn left at the first stoplight DMACC Blvd. Turn left on SW Campus Court.

7TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY SWISS

January 17 Clive TD: Mathew Jacob
ATD: Bill Broich

#	Player	ST	Pre-R	Post-R	Pre-Q	Post-Q	1	2	3	4	T
1	Hesse, Thomas	IA	1807*	1854*	1688*	1741*	H0	W10	W4	W3	3.5
2	Kende, Mark	IA	1800*	1816*	1896*	1901*	H0	W11	W5	W8	3.5
3	Slominski, Jerry	NE	1819*	1816*	1760*	1751*	H0	W9	W6	L1	2.5
4	Freerksen, Jim S	IA	1750*	1752*	1450*	1498*	W13	D5	L1	W7	2.5
5	Jetty, Milind	IA	1581*	1583*	1473*	1479*	W14	D4	L2	W11	2.5
6	Scharosch, Austin	IA	1474*	1573*	1178*	1335*	W7	W8	L3	H0	2.5
7	Jacob, Mathew	DC	1801*	1763*	1679*	1628*	L6	W14	W12	L4	2.0
8	Carson, Bethany	IA	1649*	1638*	1511*	1504*	W12	L6	W9	L2	2.0
9	Broich, William	IA	1523*	1518*	1466*	1452*	H0	L3	L8	W12	1.5
10	Harder, Tim	IA	1520*	1500*	1489*	1455*	H0	L1	L11	W13	1.5
11	Slominski, Gary C	NE	898/12	987/15	1140/14	1194/17	H0	L2	W10	L5	1.5
12	Jacobs, Steve	IA	1456*	1438*	1309*	1297*	L8	W13	L7	L9	1.0
13	Carson, Tim	IA	1404*	1365*	1291*	1248*	L4	L12	W14	L10	1.0
14	Ball, Tony	IA	632/03	632/06	627/03	627/06	L5	L7	L13	U0	0.0

Sarah Carson Wins Iowa Girls Championship
By Eric Vigil

Sarah Carson won the Iowa Girls Championship and the right to represent Iowa at the National Girls Invitational Tournament held this year in Phoenix, AZ in conjunction with the US Open. I bet Sarah made her dad proud by following in her big sister Bethany's footsteps. Last year, Sarah was denied by Regan Hodina in the last round, but this year she won.

Unfortunately Sarah Carson will not be able to attend the National Girls Invitational this year so Sanmati Thangavel will be representing Iowa. Sanmati was only one-half point behind Sarah and beat out Sara Ogrin-Cotarlan (who also scored an impressive 3.5/4.0) on tie-breaks to get the nod. I look forward to spending time in Phoenix with our three state representatives (Girls, Barber, and Denker).

Iowa Girls Championship

Feb. 14 Ames TD: James Hodina
ATD: Bill Broich

#	Player	PreR	PostR	PreQ	PostQ	1	2	3	4	T
1	Carson, Sarah Fai	1303*	1350*	1262*	1313*	W12	W10	W9	W6	4.0
2	Thangavel, Sanmat	1088*	1148*	1060*	1142*	W8	W4	D7	W9	3.5
3	Ogrin-Cotarlan, S	1044*	1151*	902*	1061*	W18	D6	W10	W7	3.5
4	Meng, Alice	837*	871*	858*	896*	W20	L2	W17	W11	3.0
5	Meng, Nina Renee	829*	834*	845*	848*	L6	W18	W13	W14	3.0
6	Hodina, Regan E	1333*	1305*	1247*	1222*	W5	D3	W14	L1	2.5
7	Denison, Ana L	1191*	1168*	1205*	1175*	W17	W11	D2	L3	2.5
8	Gu, Katie	432*	580*	450*	610*	L2	W20	D15	W17	2.5
9	Knecht, Teresa Ph	1058*	1040*	1095*	1070*	W13	W15	L1	L2	2.0
10	Wu, Athena	881*	887*	891*	890*	W16	L1	L3	W15	2.0
11	Roth, Danielle V	833*	811*	877*	851*	W19	L7	W12	L4	2.0
12	Mao, Helen	451/22	485*	469/22	505*	L1	W16	L11	W19	2.0
13	Manimaran, Sivani	326*	427*	350*	464*	L9	W19	L5	W20	2.0
14	Metschke, Allison	106/10	159/13	108/10	160/13	B0	W22	L6	L5	2.0
15	Saxena, Anushka	778*	739*	786*	750*	W21	L9	D8	L10	1.5
16	Risdal, Lauren	260*	277*	267*	284*	L10	L12	H0	W18	1.5
17	Kapadia, Palak H	508/14	495/18	531/14	523/18	L7	W21	L4	L8	1.0
18	Srinath, Shreya	278/09	238/12	283/09	243/12	L3	L5	B0	L16	1.0
19	Liu, Faith	401/00	296/04	401/00	341/04	L11	L13	W21	L12	1.0
20	Dematawewa, Hiyum	462/06	392/10	586/06	483/10	L4	L8	W22	L13	1.0
21	Pogwizd, Faith R	477/04	340/08	532/07	418/11	L15	L17	L19	W22	1.0
22	Williams, Victori	105/05	106/08	105/05	106/08	H0	L14	L20	L21	0.5

"If you have made a mistake or committed an inaccuracy there is no need to become annoyed and to think that everything is lost. You have to reorientate yourself quickly and find a new plan in the new situation." - David Bronstein

Final Qualifying Points 2014-2015

Player	# Events	Points
Tim McEntee	2	N/A
Robert Keating	4	39.75
James Neal II	6	39.50
Dan Brashaw	4	29.67
Arshaq Saleem	4	28.09
Wes Ferguson	4	23.00
Valeriy Kosokin	5	22.17
Joseph Wan	5	22.00
Kushan Tyagi	2	12.50
Dan Vasto	2	12.50
Thomas Gaul	4	10.10
John Herr	4	9.25
Jose Gatica	1	8.00
Seth Koenig	3	7.00
George Eichhorn	3	6.50
Tim Crouse	3	5.17
Ivan Wijetunge	2	5.00
James Hodina	2	3.50
Jiahua Zhang	1	3.00
Jim Freerksen	1	3.00
Dan Medrano	3	2.27
Bethany Carson	3	2.10
Michael Takahashi	4	1.67
Steve Killian	2	1.67
Tony Thompson	1	1.67
Thomas Hesse	2	1.00
Shawn Kmetz	1	1.00
Benjamin Darr	1	1.00
Milind Jetty	4	0.75
Edin Divanovic	2	0.75
Erik Gonzalez-Mule	2	0.75
James White	2	0.60
Pranav Krishnamurthy	1	0.60
Steven Patterson	4	0.00
Richard Rector	4	0.00
Morgan Lu	3	0.00
Clive Power	2	0.00
Brent Walker	2	0.00
Anish Lodh	2	0.00
Mark Capron	2	0.00
Austin Scharosch	2	0.00

Player	# Events	Points
Eric Vigil	2	0.00
Barry Vigil	2	0.00
Crissy Vigil	2	0.00
Anson James	2	0.00
William Polzin	1	0.00
Archy Coolidge	1	0.00
Daniel DeYoung	1	0.00
Arjun Palaniappan	1	0.00
Dustin Sellon	1	0.00
Stan Felgar	1	0.00
Christine Denison	1	0.00
Rex Gray	1	0.00
Nathan Chen	1	0.00
Akash Gururaja	1	0.00
Tavian Burton	1	0.00
Andrew Kozich	1	0.00
David Reke	1	0.00
George Meister	1	0.00
Nicholas Perrin	1	0.00
Joseph Vigil	1	0.00
Jacob Conley	1	0.00
Gerald Hawkins	1	0.00
Jaleb Jay	1	0.00
Frank Li	1	0.00
David Taylor	1	0.00
Tim Harder	1	0.00
Steve Jacobs	1	0.00
Nathaniel Arnold	1	0.00
Daniel Johnson	1	0.00
Cub Noble	1	0.00
Robert Reynolds	1	0.00

"By strictly observing Botvinnik's rule regarding the thorough analysis of one's own games, with the years I have come to realize that this provides the foundation for the continuous development of chess mastery." - Garry Kasparov

The First Players that have Committed to play in the 2015 Iowa Open

WCM Claudia Muñoz: Born in Wichita Falls, TX in 1997. At age 10 she won the 2008 Susan Polgar National Open with an undefeated score. She has represented the USA at the Pan American Youth in 2008 (Argentina), 2011 (Columbia), and 2012 (Peru). Claudia was invited to the 2010 World Youth Chess Championship in Greece as part of the USA team. In 2013 Claudia won the All Girls National Championship with an undefeated score and was handed the first place trophy by former World Champion Garry Kasparov. Next was the 2013 World Youth Chess Championships in United Arab Emirates. Because Claudia has dual citizenship (USA and Mexico), she has competed in the Mexican Junior Olympics. She went undefeated 5.5/6. She competed in the inaugural 2014 United States Girls Junior Closed Championship where she won the event. Most recently she competed in the 2014 World Junior (U20) Championship in India. Claudia currently has a FIDE rating of 1950 and is a women's candidate master. Her current USCF rating is 2061. This information was taken from Claudia's website at: www.claudiamunoz.com. Follow her on twitter at @chesscampeona and facebook at ChessCampeona.

WGM Camilla Baginskaite: Born in Lithuania. In 1986 she placed third in the Under 20 World Junior Chess Championship. In 1987 she won the event. In the process she achieved the Women's International Master title. In 1997 she moved to San Francisco. In 2000 Camilla shared the U.S. Women's championship title and the gold championship ring with her tie-break victory over M.I.T student Elina Groberman. This victory qualified Camilla for the 2001 Women's World Championship in Moscow. In She achieved the last sixteen. She played first board for Lithuania at the Women's Chess Olympiads of 1994 and 1996. She then switched to representing the U.S. team on first board at the in 2000 and 2002 Olympiads. Camilla's current FIDE rating is 2192 and her USCF rating is 2303. Camilla will be the first Women's Grandmaster to play in Iowa.

IM Michael Brooks: Michael was awarded the FIDE International Master title in 1989. Michael has been the Missouri state champion at least six times. In 1982 Michael tied for first place in the first annual Midwest Masters tournament in Chicago, and in 1989 he tied for second in this event with a score of 5.5/9, defeating GM Eduard Gufeld and drawing with GM Sergei Kudrin. He was one of 16 players in the field competing for the 1990 U.S. Championship. In 1994 Mike won the North American Open in Las Vegas. Michael is in the MO Chess Hall of Fame. Michaels peak USCF rating has been 2630. In 2014 Michael tied for first in the Missouri Open Championship with an undefeated score of 4/5. Michael resides in the Kansas City, MO area. Mike has won or shared first place in the last 3 Iowa Opens. His current FIDE rating is 2431 and his USCF rating is 2432.

GM Alex Yermolinsky: Alex was born in the St. Petersburg, Russia and immigrated to the US in 1990. Alex was awarded the title of International Grandmaster in 1992. Some highlights of his chess career: U.S. Open Champion 1995, 1997, 1999, and 2000. U.S. Champion in 1993 and 1996. First Board U.S. Olympic Team 1996 and 1998. Three-time World Open Champion 1993, 1995 and 1996. Continental Champion of the Americas 2001. Four-time World Championship Candidate. Alex was inducted into the US Chess Hall of Fame in 2012. Alex currently resides in South Dakota where he spends much of his time teaching chess. He is also very active and popular in lectures on the ICC. Alex has written magazine articles and books including the very popular *Road to Chess Improvement*. Alex's Peak FIDE rating has been 2660, and he has been ranked as high as 19th in the World. His current FIDE rating is 2531and his USCF is 2599.

The **Iowa Open** will be held on August 29-30, 2015 in Coralville, IA. The full TLA can be found on page 7 of this issue or online at iowa-chess.org. Put this tournament on your schedule. We had 198 players in total for the 4 sections last year and look to go well above 200 this year. For the first time the OPEN and RESERVE sections will be in the Exhibit Hall area of the Marriott Hotel. This is a very large room able to hold 500 or more people. The RBO section will be in the same location as the last two years. This should provide a much quieter experience for the OPEN and RESERVE competitors and more relaxed atmosphere for the RBOers.

Spotlight On: Michael Takahashi

How long have you been playing chess and how did you start?

I've been playing for about five years, since the beginning of 2nd grade when my sister and I joined the Lincoln Chess Club.

What draws you to chess?

I like the excitement of the games, especially in tournaments when a game is really close, your clock is winding down, everyone is watching, and winning or losing the game is crucial to the outcome of the tournament.

What was the first OTB tournament you played in and how did you do?

I played in my first tournament about 4 months after I started playing chess. It was one of the many tournaments Steve Young organized at the Iowa City Rec Center. I won 2 and lost 3.

Do you play chess on the Internet?

I sometimes play on chess.com. I especially like the blitz tournaments where you're matched with a random group of players from around the world.

What do you think of Chess on the Internet?

Sometimes I find it difficult to move a piece to the right square because I let go of the mouse too early, and there is no way to fix it so I'm stuck with a really bad position.

What has been your greatest success in chess?

I was really happy with my performance at the 2013 Supernationals in Nashville. There were over 5000 players at the tournament, with more than 350 playing in my section (K-5). I got 4 points in seven matches, beating Collin Khoi Le who is now in the Top 100 in the country for his age group.

Do you play Correspondence Chess?

No. I sometimes play slow chess games on Chesskid.com where you have 3 days to make a move.

What other hobbies do you have?

I like baseball and soccer. I also play the drums.

Tell us some about your family?

I live with my mom and dad, and my sister Mina who is a freshman at City High.

Who is your favorite chess player of all time?

Among the older chess champions, I like Paul Morphy, Alexander Alekhine and Emanuel Lasker. Among the current players, I like Magnus Carlsen.

Do you have a favorite game that was played in the past by any player?

Bukhuti Gurgenidze vs. Mikhail Tal (Moscow 1957)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.♘c3 e×d5 5.c×d5 d6 6.♘f3 g6 7.e4 ♗g7 8.♗e2 0-0 9.0-0 ♖e8 10.♘d2 ♘a6 11.♖e1 ♘c7 12.a4 b6 13.♕c2 ♘g4 14.h3 ♘×f2 15.♔×f2 ♕h4+ 16.♔f1 ♗d4 17.♘d1 ♕×h3 18.♗f3 ♕h2 19.♘e3 f5 20.♘dc4 f×e4 21.♗×e4 ♗a6 22.♗f3 ♖e5 23.♖a3 ♖ae8 24.♗d2 ♘×d5 25.♗×d5+ ♖×d5 26.♔e2 ♗×e3 27.♖×e3 ♗×c4+ 0-1

Do you have a favorite game you have played?

I had to overcome many obstacles in one of my games at the 2014 Greater Midwest Class Championship in Chicago. I was down by more than 7 points in the end-

game, but I didn't resign and tried to make it as difficult as possible for my opponent, eventually getting a draw.

Takahashi, Michael (1457) - Prabhavalkar, Omkar (1501)
2014 Greater Midwest Class Championship - Nov 29, 2014
1.e4 d5 2.e×d5 ♕×d5 3.♘c3 ♕a5 4.h3 ♘f6 5.♘f3 ♗f5 6.d3 c6 7.♗e2 e6 8.0-0 ♗d6 9.♗e3 0-0 10.a3 ♘bd7 11.b4 ♕c7 12.♖c1 a6 13.♘a4 ♗f4 14.♗×f4 ♕×f4 15.c4 ♖fd8 16.♕b3 ♘e5 17.♖fd1 ♘×f3+ 18.♗×f3 ♗×h3 19.d4 ♗g4 20.♕e3 ♕f5 21.♖d3 ♗×f3 22.♕×f3 ♕×f3 23.g×f3 ♘h5 24.♖cd1 ♘f4 25.♖3d2 g5 26.♘b6 ♖ab8 27.d5 c×d5 28.c×d5 e×d5 29.♘×d5 ♘×d5 30.♖×d5 ♖×d5 31.♖×d5 h6 32.♔g2 ♖e8 33.a4 ♖e7 34.♔g3 ♔g7 35.f4 f6 36.f3 ♖c7 37.f5 h5 38.♖d4 b5 39.a×b5 a×b5 40.♖d5 h4+ 41.♔f2 ♖c2+ 42.♔e3 h3 43.♖d1 ♖b2 44.♖h1 h2 45.♔d3 ♖b3+ 46.♔c2 ♖×f3 47.♖×h2 ♖×f5 48.♖d2 g4 49.♔c3 g3 50.♖g2 ♖g5 51.♔d4 f5 52.♔e5 ♔g6 53.♔f4 ♖g4+ 54.♔e5 f4 55.♔e4 ♔g5 56.♔f3 ♖h4 57.♖c2 ♔f6 58.♖c5 ♖h2 59.♔×f4 g2 60.♖c6+ ♔f7 61.♖c7+ ♔e8 62.♖g7 ♔f8 63.♖g3 ♔e7 64.♔f3 ♔d6 65.♔f2 ♔d5 66.♖g4 g1♕+ 67.♔×g1 ♖c2 68.♔f1 ♖d2 69.♔e1 ♖d4 70.♖×d4+ ♔×d4 71.♔d2 ♔c4 72.♔c2 ♔×b4 73.♔b2 ♔a4 74.♔a2 b4 75.♔b2 b3 76.♔b1 ♔a3 77.♔a1
½-½

What is your favorite Chess quotation?

"Without error there can be no brilliancy." (Emanuel Lasker)

Do you have a favorite chess book?

100 Endgames You Must Know by Jesus de la Villa. I'm also working through a book right now titled *Training for the Tournament Player* by Mark Dvoretsky and Artur Yusupov, which contains a lot of useful advice.

What type of chess library do you have?

We have about 50 books on chess. I also check some out from the Iowa City Public Library.

Do you have a favorite chess opening?

I like to play the Giuoco Piano.

Do you have a favorite chess ending?

I like the Kling and Horowitz defensive technique.

Do you have a favorite movie?

We have a special celebration at our house where we watch the Bill Murray movie "Groundhog Day" on February 2nd and eat flapjacks.

What is your favorite Food?

When I go out to eat, Pad Thai and Teriyaki Chicken. At home, Sukiyaki.

What is your favorite Color?

I mostly like black, but also green since it is my school color.

Any advice you would want to give to new players of the game?

When you're playing your games, don't give up even if you're down by a lot of material. Beginners tend to make lots of mistakes, so there is always a chance to get back in the game. Tartakower said something like, no one ever drew or won a game by resigning. Just remember, miracles can happen.

Anything else you would like to add?

I had a lot of fun playing people from other countries when we were traveling in Europe in 2013. Many people come to public parks for casual pick-up games. I played a couple of games against this guy in the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris, and also played against a really good player in a sea-

side town in Germany. I also play online against my dad's friend in Germany who has a FIDE rating of around 2000.

Michael (right) playing in Paris in 2013.

Kushan Tyagi wins Iowa's Denker Qualifier and Joseph Wan win's Iowa's Barber Qualifier.

By Eric Vigil

Kushan Tyagi won his most competitive qualifying event in his attempts to secure the Denker Championship. With his victory over Arshaq Saleem in round 2 he put himself in great positon to win the 6 player section. In round 3 Kushan was dealt a draw by Morgan Lu. Morgan was then due to face Arshaq in round 4, but Morgan pointed out he had to leave and had requested a 4th round bye before the tournament started, the suspense fell out of the situation. Not being mathematically eliminated, Arshaq stuck around and made Kushan stick around as they both easily won their 4th round games. leaving Kushan a half-point ahead and the Iowa Denker Representative.

In the Barber the two favorites, Gokul Thangavel and Joseph Wan, due to accelerated pairings, ended up facing each other in round 4. I looked at the board and thought it was a drawn position, later I saw Joseph jump up with excitement to record the score, it reminded me of a kindergarten chess player achieving their first win, Joseph was jumping. Later I asked Gokul about it, he said he thought he had a draw too, but thought he might be able to win and went for it. I applauded his courage, to go for it, and then like the Chicago Cubs.... there is always next year.

Interesting side note, Gokul and Michael Takahashi tied for second and third and were tied using 5 sets of tiebreakers. This astounded me, as I have never seen this before. We were about to have them play a blitz playoff when I reloaded the PTO file on my WinTD program and found a 6th pair of tiebreakers (my WinTD is newer than Bill's

WinTD and has a 6th set of tiebreakers.) which put Gokul in second.

Thank you to Bill Broich for helping me run the tournament, Matt Power for helping with the great location at Kirkwood Community College's Iowa City Campus, and thank you to my boys Barry and Joey for helping set up boards and rearranging the classroom tables before and after the tournament, they are my roadies. And James Hodina for organizing our scholastic championship chess schedule.

#	Player	PreR	PostR	PreQ	PostQ	1	2	3	4	T
1	Tyagi, Kushan	2179*	2177*	1916*	1916*	W4	W2	D3	W6	3.5
2	Saleem, Arshaq	2101*	2093*	1861*	1850*	W6	L1	W5	W4	3.0
3	Lu, Morgan	1520*	1529*	1465*	1475*	W5	D4	D1	H0	2.5
4	Ciha, Trevor Lee	1117*	1168*	1126*	1171*	L1	D3	W6	L2	1.5
5	Vongpanya, Sayoth	1208*	1162*	1216*	1167*	L3	L6	L2	B0	1.0
6	Zastrow, Mason	954*	990*	953*	989*	L2	W5	L4	L1	1.0

#	Player	PreR	PostR	PreQ	PostQ	1	2	3	4	T
1	Wan, Joseph Cheng	2071*	2079*	1787*	1806*	W7	W8	W4	W2	4.0
2	Thangavel, Gokul	1878*	1874*	1680*	1678*	W10	W9	W6	L1	3.0
3	Power, Clive Scot	1709*	1700*	1531*	1527*	H0	W16	W19	D8	3.0
4	Takahashi, Michae	1626*	1638*	1401*	1453*	W11	W5	L1	W10	3.0
5	Chen, Nathan	1409*	1420*	1366*	1375*	W14	L4	W18	W12	3.0
6	Carson, Sarah Fai	1252*	1303*	1197*	1262*	W26	W15	L2	W14	3.0
7	Palaniappan, Arju	1245*	1318*	1162*	1263*	L1	W18	W17	W9	3.0
8	Lodh, Anish	1461*	1476*	1381*	1392*	W12	L1	W20	D3	2.5
9	Fiedorowicz, Owen	1338*	1328*	1335*	1320*	W13	L2	W15	L7	2.0
10	Swamy, Rishabh	1217*	1226*	1230*	1231*	L2	W17	W16	L4	2.0
11	Denison, Ana L	1195*	1175*	1225*	1197*	L4	L14	W25	W19	2.0
12	Vigil, Barry	994*	997*	990*	991*	L8	W25	W22	L5	2.0
13	Selva, Karthik B	1138*	1098*	1154*	1115*	L9	L19	W21	W20	2.0
14	Huerter, Nikalaus	1187*	1187*	1182*	1180*	L5	W11	W23	L6	2.0
15	Wei, Nathan	1005*	1007*	1012*	1013*	W21	L6	L9	W23	2.0
16	Luo, Andy	989*	996*	1008*	1012*	W23	L3	L10	W22	2.0
17	Lodh, Anjali	776*	782*	775*	781*	W24	L10	L7	W25	2.0
18	Thompson, Kian	1162*	1143*	1184*	1156*	W22	L7	L5	H0	1.5
19	Starr, Drake	856*	904*	911*	943*	D20	W13	L3	L11	1.5
20	Thomasson, Aaron	750*	831*	773*	851*	D19	W26	L8	L13	1.5
21	Xu, Eddy	779*	735*	793*	748*	L15	L23	L13	W24	1.0
22	Taylor, Dylan	746/08	732/12	749/08	735/12	L18	W24	L12	L16	1.0
23	Vigil, Joseph	697*	709*	713*	724*	L16	W21	L14	L15	1.0
24	Huerter, George	536*	491*	537*	493*	L17	L22	B0	L21	1.0
25	Brown, Gerald	264*	259*	269*	264*	B0	L12	L11	L17	1.0
26	Power, Josiah Tho	1078*	1020*	1070*	1012*	L6	L20	U0	U0	0.0

Port of Dubuque, Tri-State, Tri-Winners: Kosokin, McNeil, and Neal!!

By Eric Vigil

Port of Dubuque Open AKA Tri State Chess Festival. My kids are big Phinneas and Ferb fans, so when I held the Port of Dubuque Open, I wanted it to be a battle for supremacy of the TRI STATE AREA! To make Dr. Duffenshmirtz proud, I got my wish as 20 players from Iowa, 7 from Illinois, 6 from Wisconsin, 1 from Minnesota and one all the way from Missouri converged on a subzero day in Dubuque. You could walk across the Mississippi River to Illinois it was so Cold.

The 5 Top Rated players included Valeriy Kosokin, Current K-6 Champion Joseph Wan, Iowa's 2014 Barber Representative Arshaq Saleem, David McNeil and James Neal. Returning to chess after a long illness was Steve Killian former president of the Illowa Chess Club of the Quad Cities; it was great to see him back playing chess.

From Wisconsin, I reacquainted myself with Dennis Kosterman of the Wisconsin Chess Association, whom I played at the US Open in Madison two years ago. We discussed the possibility of putting this tournament next year on the Tour of Wisconsin circuit and growing more chess friendships across our borders. I did get a few players who commented they enjoyed playing people from other states as Dubuque wasn't too far to travel and it was a different mix of players than they usually played. From Chicago came Eva Harrison and her two sons David and Christopher, and you know what they say, the family that plays chess together stays together. Also from Chicago was Jonah Karafiol, a promising C scholastic player, no doubt intrigued by a chess tournament at a waterpark. Special Mention to Randall Schmidt of Wisconsin, who said he could not make the event but wanted to make the Prize fund bigger for other players and made a donation. Seeing the rating demographic of players I took the money and added an U2000 prize.

Round 1 saw only one upset, a draw between Michael Takahashi and James Ellis. In round 2 James Neal drew Harper Smith in a heated game. And Dan Medrano drew Arshaq Saleem, which set up round 3 action with three players at 2-0. Joseph Wan went at Valeriy Kosokin and drew, and Arshaq Saleem defeated David McNeil to leave

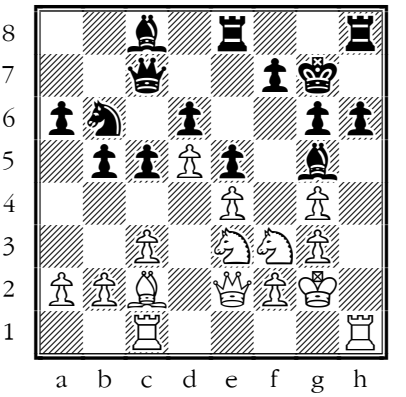
a 6 way tie at the top, all with 2.5 points going into round 4.

McNeil, David (2020) - Saleem, Arshaq (2110) [B22] Port of Dubuque Open (3), 10.01.2015
1.e4 c5 2.c3 ♘f6 3.e5 ♘d5 4.d4 c×d4 5.♘f3 ♘c6 6.c×d4 d6 7.♗c4 ♘b6 8.♗b5 d×e5 9.♘×e5 ♗d7 10.♗×c6 ♗×c6 11.♘×c6 b×c6 12.0-0 g6 13.♘c3 ♗g7 14.♗e3 0-0 15.♕d3 ♕d7 16.♖fd1 ♖fd8 17.♖d2 e5 18.♖ad1 ♕e6 19.♕e2 e×d4 20.♗×d4 ♘c4 21.♖d3 ♕×e2 22.♘×e2 ♘×b2 23.♗×b2 ♖×d3 24.♖×d3 ♗×b2 25.♖d7 ♖c8 26.♖×a7 c5 27.♖b7 ♗g7 28.♘f4 ♖a8 29.♖b1 ♖×a2 30.♖c1 ♖a1 31.♖×a1 ♗×a1 32.♔f1 ♔f8 33.♘d5 ♔e8 34.♔e2 ♔d7 35.♔d3 ♗d4 36.f3 ♔d6 37.♘b6 ♗g1 38.h3 ♔c6 39.♘c4 ♔d5 40.♘b6+ ♔e5 41.g3 ♗f2 42.♘d7+ ♔f5 43.♔e2 ♗d4 44.♔d3 h5 45.g4+ ♔f4 46.♔e2 ♔g3 0-1

Joseph Wan Annotates:

Wan,Joseph (2061) − Kosokin,Valeriy (2166) [B51] 2015 Port of Dubuque Open (3), 19.01.2015
[Wan, Joseph]

1.e4 Kosokin and I were two of the three perfects going into the third round. **1...c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♗b5+ ♘d7 4.c3 ♘gf6 5.♕e2 a6 6.♗a4 e5!** Black takes control of the center, knowing that the "d5" hole that he made will never be easily reached by White. **7.0-0 ♗e7 8.d4 0-0 9.♖d1 ♕c7 10.♗g5?!** Slightly inaccurate. It would've been better to develop the knight first with 10. ♘bd2. **10...b5 11.♗b3 ♘b6 12.♘bd2 ♗b7 13.♖ac1 h6 14.♗h4 ♘h5 15.♗g3? ♘×g3 16.h×g3 ♗f6?!** 16...e×d4! 17.c×d4 c4 18.♗c2 ♖ae8 19.♘f1 ♗f6∓. **17.♘f1?** Allowing ... e×d4 again. 17.d5 c4 18.♗c2 a5 19.♘f1 ♘d7 20.♘e3 ♘c5 21.a4 b×a4 22.♕×c4=. **17...♖ae8?!** 17...e×d4!! 18.c×d4 ♖fe8 19.♗c2 c×d4 20.♗b1 ♕e7 21.♘×d4 ♗×e4∓. **18.d5!** Getting on the right track. **18...g6 19.♘e3 ♗g7 20.g4** Preventing any sort of ... f5. **20...♗c8 21.♗c2 ♗f6 22.g3 ♔g7 23.♔g2 ♖h8 24.♖h1 ♗g5** I offered a draw here, which he declined.

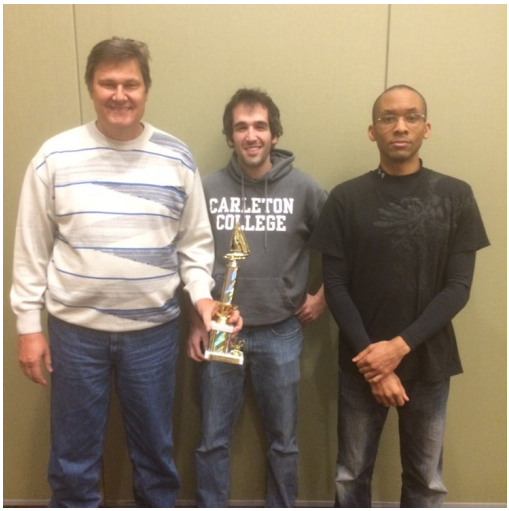


25.♘×g5 h×g5 26.♖cd1 ♗d7 27.♖c1 ♕c8 28.f3 c4 29.♕f2 ♕c5 30.f4!! White blasts open the position. **30...♖×h1!** Black finds the only defense. **31.♖×h1 e×f4 32.g×f4 ♖h8! 33.♖f1!? ♗e8 34.f5 ♘d7 35.f×g6 f×g6 36.♕d2 ♘e5 37.♕f2 ♘d7 38.♕d2** Here I offered another draw, and he took it. **½-½**

Round 3 was complicated by the bane of many chess tournaments at hotels, the dreaded wedding next door. Although after the commotions of the reception line, and buffet noise, I kind of enjoyed the melodic rhythms of YMCA and the Chicken Dance to play chess to. I had forgotten about a bye that was requested earlier and I joined the tournament to play Sophie Taylor (to avoid a bye as she came to Dubuque to play some chess!) in what ended up being the second longest game of the evening. Sophie is an amazing girl, when we had 7 lower rated scholastic players we formed an RBO section, which allowed shorter games, and more time at the waterpark. Sophie however, insisted on playing in the Open Section as she wanted to experience longer games. She lost all of her games at the tournament, but played fiercely down to the last pawn in every game. Her never say die attitude

was inspiring and will do her right if she keeps up with the chess. I feel if she would have been in the RBO section she could very well have pulled off some major upsets. But, as it was Sunday afternoon, after losing her last game Sophie needed some time to gather her composure in the ladies room, her mood was sad, until I informed her she won $75 for being the only player in the U1400 section, and by the rules of chess I had an advertised Prize, and I had to give it away. I also told her about her superb play, and even although she had lost, she had thought hard. The smile that replaced her frown was priceless.

James Neil, Valeriy Kosokin, and Joseph Wan were tied with 3.5 going into the final round. Joseph went up against David McNeil and lost and James played Valeriy to a draw. Leaving Kosokin, McNeil, and Neal all at 4/5. Valeriy won barely on tiebreaks.



The three Winners: Valeriy (Left), David (Center) and James (Right).

Mcneil,David (2020) - Wan,Joseph (2061) [C15] 2015 Port of Dubuque Open (5), 11.01.2015

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♘ge2 ♘f6 5.e5 ♘fd7 6.a3 ♗e7 7.♘f4 g6?! 8.h4 ♗×h4? 9.♕g4 ♗e7 10.♗d3 f5?? 11.e×f6 ♗×f6 12.♗×g6+ h×g6 13.♖×h8+ ♗×h8 14.♕×g6+ ♔e7 15.♘c×d5+ e×d5 16.♘×d5+ ♔f8 17.♗h6+ ♗g7 18.♗×g7+ 1-0

Games:

Thompson,T. (1781) - Kosokin,V. (2166) [B07] (1)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 d6 3.♘bd2 ♘bd7 4.e4 e5 5.♗e2 g6 6.c3 ♗g7 7.d×e5 d×e5 8.0-0 0-0 9.♕c2 c6 10.a4 ♕c7 11.b4 ♖e8 12.♘c4 ♘b6 13.♘fd2 ♗h6 14.♖e1 ♗e6 15.♘×b6 a×b6 16.♘c4 ♗×c1 17.♖e×c1 ♗×c4 18.♗×c4 ♖ed8 19.f3 ♖d6 20.♖d1 ♖ad8 21.♗b3 ♖8d7 22.♖×d6 ♕×d6 23.♖d1 ♕×d1+ 24.♕×d1 ♖×d1+ 25.♗×d1 ♔f8 26.♔f2 ♔e7 27.♗b3 ♘e8 28.♔e3 ♘d6 29.g3 f5 30.e×f5 g×f5 31.f4 ♔f6 32.f×e5+ ♔×e5 33.♗g8 h6 34.♗b3 ♘e4 35.c4 ♘f6 36.h3 ♘e4 37.g4 f4+ 38.♔e2 f3+ 39.♔e3 f2 40.♔e2 ♘d2 0-1

Lu,Morgan (1416) − Crouse,Tim (1829) [C01] (1)
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘d2 ♘f6 4.♗d3 c5 5.d×c5 ♗×c5 6.e×d5 e×d5 7.♘gf3 0-0 8.0-0 ♗g4 9.h3 ♗h5 10.c3 ♘c6 11.♕c2 ♖c8 12.♘b3 ♗b6 13.♗e2 ♘e4 14.♗f4 ♕f6 15.♗h2 ♖fe8 16.♖ae1 d4

#	Player	ST	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	Kosokin, Valeriy	IA	2166*	2172*	W14	W5	D4	W11	D2	4.0
2	Neal, James Alex,	IA	2108*	2114*	W15	D6	W8	W12	D1	4.0
3	Mcneil, David	MN	2020*	2036*	X0	W7	L10	W13	W4	4.0
4	Wan, Joseph Cheng	IA	2061*	2071*	W18	W13	D1	W10	L3	3.5
5	Ferguson, Wesley	WI	1955*	1963*	W24	L1	W14	D7	W12	3.5
6	Smith, Harper Eva	MO	1892*	1901*	W25	D2	L12	W24	W9	3.5
7	Herr, John Edward	IA	1803*	1832*	W22	L3	W21	D5	W11	3.5
8	Wijetunge, Ivan	IA	1894*	1888*	W26	H0	L2	D16	W17	3.0
9	Peralta, Luis M	IL	1816*	1826*	W21	L11	W17	W23	L6	3.0
10	Saleem, Arshaq	IA	2110*	2101*	W17	D12	W3	L4	U0	2.5
11	Ellis, James S	WI	1910*	1904*	D16	W9	W23	L1	L7	2.5
12	Medrano, Daniel	IA	1836*	1851*	W19	D10	W6	L2	L5	2.5
13	Crouse, Tim	IA	1829*	1819*	W20	L4	W18	L3	D16	2.5
14	Thompson, Tony D	IA	1781*	1781*	L1	W26	L5	W25	H0	2.5
15	Killian, Steve	IA	1722*	1706*	L2	D20	L16	W21	W24	2.5
16	Takahashi, Michae	IA	1516*	1626*	D11	L23	W15	D8	D13	2.5
17	Reinke, Robert T	WI	1712*	1702*	L10	W19	L9	W22	L8	2.0
18	Willett, Joseph	IL	1588*	1594*	L4	W28	L13	W20	U0	2.0
19	Harrison, Eva C	IL	1543*	1508*	L12	L17	L25	B0	W28	2.0
20	Lu, Morgan	IA	1512*	1520*	L13	D15	H0	L18	W25	2.0
21	Lodh, Anish	IA	1414*	1465*	L9	W25	L7	L15	W26	2.0
22	Reedy, Edward	IL	1410*	1413*	L7	L24	W26	L17	B0	2.0
23	Hodina, James	IA	1956*	1926*	H0	W16	L11	L9	U0	1.5
24	Karafiol, Jonah C	IL	1572*	1562*	L5	W22	H0	L6	L15	1.5
25	Rector, Richard	IA	1560*	1521*	L6	L21	W19	L14	L20	1.0
26	Kosterman, Dennis	WI	1555*	1497*	L8	L14	L22	W28	L21	1.0
27	Vigil, Eric Golf	IA	1264*	1270*	U0	U0	W28	U0	U0	1.0
28	Taylor, Sophie	WI	908*	898*	U0	L18	L27	L26	L19	0.0

RBO Section

#	Player	ST	PreR	PostR	PreQ	PostQ	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	Thompson, Kian	IA	1042*	1168*	1098*	1192*	W2	W3	W4	W6	W5	5
2	Harrison, David O	IL	1131*	1141*	1123*	1134*	L1	W5	W6	W3	W4	4
3	Vigil, Barry	IA	1125*	1094*	1117*	1087*	W4	L1	W5	L2	W6	3
4	Harrison, Christo	IL	692*	745*	744*	760*	L3	W6	L1	W5	L2	2
5	Vigil, Joseph	IA	719*	678*	712*	673*	B0	L2	L3	L4	L1	1
6	Nielsen, Craig	WI	699*	661*	514*	497*	U0	L4	L2	L1	L3	0

17.♘f×d4 ♗×e2 18.♖×e2 ♗×d4 19.♖×e4 ♗b6 20.♖fe1 ♖×e4 21.♖×e4 ♖d8 22.♖f4 ♕e6 23.♗g3 ♕e1+ 24.♔h2 ♖d1 25.♗h4 ♗c7 26.♕f5 ♕g1+ 27.♔g3 ♗×f4+ 28.♕×f4 ♖d3+ 29.f3 ♕e1+ 30.♔h2 ♕e5 31.♕×e5 ♘×e5 32.♔g3 ♘c4 33.♘c5 ♖d2 34.b3 ♘a5 35.a4 b6 36.♘e4 ♖b2 37.b4 ♘b3 38.♗e7 ♖a2 39.c4 ♖×a4 40.c5 ♖×b4 41.c6 ♖c4 42.♘d6 ♖×c6 43.♘b5 ♖e6 44.♗h4 a5 45.♔f4 ♖e8 46.♘d6 ♖a8 47.♘c4 b5 48.♘b6 ♖a6 49.♘d5 a4 50.♗e7 a3 51.♘b4 a2 0-1

Annotated by Joseph Wan:

Wan,J (2061) − Willett,J (1613)
[B22] (1)
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.c3 ♘f6 4.e5 ♘d5 5.d4 c×d4 6.c×d4 ♗e7?! [Black has to play 6... d6 to free his pieces. 6...d6 7.♘c3 ♘×c3 8.b×c3 ♗e7=] **7.♘c3 ♕a5 8.♗d2 ♗b4?!** [This is the second move in the opening for this piece. Better would've been 8... ♕b6.] **9.a3!** [I calculated that this works.] **9...♗e7** [9...♘×c3? 10.a×b4 ♘×d1 11.♖×a5 ♘×b2 12.♗c3+- The knight is trapped.; 9...♗×c3 10.b×c3 ♕c7 *(10...♘×c3?? 11.♕c2* Winning the knight.*)* 11.c4 ♘e7 12.♗d3±] **10.♗c4** [Threatening 11. ♘×d5.] **10...♘×c3 11.b×c3 0-0 12.0-0 ♘c6 13.♗d3!** [Repositioning the bishop on the d3-h7 diagonal.] **13...♕d8 14.♕e2 f5?!** [14...d5! 15.e×d6 ♗×d6 16.♖fe1 h6 17.♕e4 f5 18.♕e2±] **15.e×f6 ♗×f6 16.♘e5!?** [16.♖fe1 d5 17.♖ab1±] **16...♘×e5?!** [This allows White to get a cramping pawn on "e5". Better was 16... ♗×e5.] **17.d×e5 ♗g5?** [The final blunder. 17...♗e7 18.♕h5 ♖f5 19.♗×f5 e×f5 20.♕×f5+-] **18.♕h5! 1-0**

Takahashi, M. (1516) − Ellis, J. (1910)
[C57] (1)
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♘f6 4.♘g5 d5 5.e×d5 b5 6.d×c6 b×c4 7.♕e2 ♕d5 8.0-0 ♗g4 9.♕e3 ♗c5 10.♕g3 0-0 11.♘c3 ♕×c6 12.♕×e5 ♖fe8 13.♕g3 ♗d6 14.♕h4 ♗f5 15.d3 c×d3 16.c×d3 ♗×d3 17.♖d1 ♗c2 18.♖f1 ♖ab8 19.♘f3 ♖b4 20.♕g5 ♖g4 21.♕×g4 ♘×g4 22.h3 ♘e5 23.♘d4 ♕b7 24.♘×c2 ♘d3 25.b3 ♗c5 26.♗e3 ♗×e3 27.♘×e3 ♕c6 28.♘cd5 ♖e5 29.♖fd1 ♖×e3 30.♘×e3 ½-½

Peralta,Luis (1816) − Lodh,Anish (1416)
[D35] (1)
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.♗g5 c6 5.e3 ♘bd7 6.c×d5 e×d5 7.♗d3 ♗e7 8.♘ge2 0-0 9.0-0 ♕c7 10.h3 h6 11.♗f4 ♗d6 12.♖c1 a6 13.♗b1 ♘b6 14.b3 ♕e7 15.♕d3 ♗a3 16.♗e5 g6 17.♖cd1 ♗f5 18.♗×f6 ♕×f6 19.♕d2 ♗d6 20.♘g3 ♗d7 21.f4 ♖ae8 22.♖f3 ♗b4 23.♕d3 ♖e7 24.f5 ♗×c3 25.♕×c3 g×f5 26.♘×f5 ♗×f5 27.♗×f5 ♕g7 28.♕c5 ♘c8 29.♗×c8 ♖c7 30.♗f5 ♔h8 31.♖g3 ♕×g3 32.♕×f8+ ♕g8 33.♕×h6+ ♕h7 34.♕×h7# 1-0

Wijetunge,I (1906) − Kosterman,D (1555)
[A48] (1)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.♗f4 g6 3.e3 ♗g7 4.h3 d6 5.♘f3 0-0 6.♗e2 c5 7.c3 c×d4 8.e×d4 b6 9.0-0 ♗b7 10.♘bd2 ♘bd7 11.♖e1 ♖e8 12.♗c4 ♘d5 13.♗g3 ♘c7 14.♕b3 ♖f8 15.♘g5 d5 16.♗×c7 d×c4 17.♗×d8 c×b3 18.♗×e7 ♖fe8 19.a×b3 h6 20.♘gf3 a6 21.♗h4 b5 22.♗g3 ♘f6 23.♘e5 ♖e6 24.b4 ♖ae8 25.♘b3 ♘d7 26.f4 ♘×e5 27.f×e5 1-0

Reedy,Ed (1410) − Herr,John (1803)
[A06] (1)
1.d4 d5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.e3 ♗g4 4.♗e2 e6 5.b3 ♗e7 6.0-0 0-0 7.♘bd2 ♘bd7 8.♗b2 a6 9.c4 c6 10.♖c1 ♖c8 11.h3 ♗h5 12.g4 ♗g6 13.♘e5 ♘×e5 14.d×e5 ♘d7 15.f4 h6 16.♔h2 ♗h4 17.♘f3 ♗e4 18.♘×h4 ♕×h4 19.♗d3 ♘c5 20.♗b1 ♗×b1 21.♖×b1 ♘e4 22.♕e1 ♕×e1 23.♖b×e1 d×c4 24.b×c4 ♘d2 25.♖f2 ♘×c4 26.♗c3 ♖fd8 27.♔g2 ♖d3 28.♖c1 ♘×e3+ 29.♔h2 ♖×c3 30.♖×c3 ♘d1 31.♖fc2 ♘×c3 32.♖×c3 ♖d8 33.♔g3 ♖d2 34.a3 g6 35.♔f3 ♔f8 36.♔e3 ♖d1 37.♖b3 ♖d7 38.h4 ♔e7 39.h5 ♔d8 40.h×g6 f×g6 41.♖d3 ♖×d3+ 42.♔×d3 b6 43.♔c4 h5 44.g×h5 g×h5 45.♔d3 c5 46.♔e3 h4 0-1

Medrano,D (1836) − Harrison,Eva (1543)
[D11] (1)
1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.d4 d5 3.c4 c6 4.e3 ♗g4 5.♘c3 e6 6.♕b3 ♕c7 7.♘e5 ♗f5 8.♗d2 ♘bd7 9.f4 ♗e7 10.♖c1 ♕b6 11.♕×b6 ♘×b6 12.c5 ♘bd7 13.b4 a6 14.a4 ♘e4 15.b5 a×b5 16.a×b5 f6 17.b×c6 ♘×e5 18.c×b7 ♖b8 19.♗b5+ ♘d7 20.c6 ♔d8 21.♘×e4 ♔c7 22.c×d7+ ♔×b7 23.♘c5+ ♔b6 24.♗e2 ♖hd8 25.♔f2 e5 26.g4

♗×d7 27.♖b1+ ♔c6 28.♘×d7 ♔×d7 29.♗b5+ ♔e6 30.f5+ ♔f7 31.♗c6 ♖bc8 32.♖hc1 ♔f8 33.♗a5 ♖d6 34.♗b7 ♖c4 35.♖×c4 d×c4 36.d×e5 f×e5 37.♗b4 ♖d7 38.♗×e7+ ♔×e7 39.♗f3 c3 40.♖c1 ♖d2+ 41.♗e2 c2 42.♔e1 ♖d6 43.♖×c2 ♔f6 44.♖c7 ♖a6 45.♗×a6 **1-0**

Reinke,R (1712) − Saleem,A (2110)
[B22] (1)
1.e4 c5 2.c3 ♘f6 3.e5 ♘d5 4.d4 c×d4 5.c×d4 ♘c6 6.♗c4 ♘b6 7.♗b3 d6 8.♘f3 d×e5 9.d5 ♘a5 10.♘c3 ♗g4 11.♗a4+ ♘×a4 12.♕×a4+ ♗d7 13.♕e4 f6 14.♗d2 ♖c8 15.b3 b6 16.h4 ♘b7 17.h5 ♘c5 18.♕e2 ♗f5 19.♘h4 ♗d3 20.♕e3 ♗a6 21.♘f5 ♕d7 22.g4 ♘d3+ 23.♔f1 ♘f4+ 24.♔g1 ♘×d5 25.♘×d5 ♕×d5 26.h6 g6 27.♘g7+ ♔f7 28.g5 ♕d3 29.♕×d3 ♗×d3 30.♖h3 ♗a6 31.♖c1 ♗×g7 32.h×g7 ♔×g7 33.g×f6+ e×f6 34.♖hc3 ♖×c3 35.♖×c3 ♖c8 36.♖h3 ♖c6 37.♗h6+ ♔f7 38.♗e3 h5 0-1

Saleem,A. (2110) − Medrano,D. (1855)
[D45] (2)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♘f3 e6 5.e3 a6 6.c5 ♗e7 7.♗d2 ♘bd7 8.b4 ♕c7 9.♗e2 e5 10.d×e5 ♘×e5 11.♘d4 a5 12.a3 0-0 13.h3 a×b4 14.a×b4 ♖×a1 15.♕×a1 b5 16.0-0 ♘c4 17.♗×c4 b×c4 18.♕b2 ♗d7 19.f3 ♗×h3 20.♘×c6 ♕×c6 21.g×h3 ♖b8 22.♕a3 ♖a8 23.♕b2 ♖b8 24.♕a3 ♖a8 25.♕b2 ½-½

Kosterman,D (1555) − Thompson,T (1781)
[B12] (2)
1.e4 d6 2.d4 c6 3.♘f3 ♗g4 4.♗e2 d5 5.e5 e6 6.h3 ♗h5 7.♗g5 ♕b6 8.b3 ♘d7 9.0-0 h6 10.♗e3 ♗g6 11.♘bd2 ♘e7 12.♘h4 ♗h7 13.c4 ♘f5 14.♘×f5 ♗×f5 15.c×d5 c×d5 16.♖c1 ♗a3 17.♖c3 ♗b2 18.♖c2 ♗×c2 19.♕×c2 ♗×d4 20.♗f4 ♗×e5 0-1

Karafiol,J (1572) − Reedy,Ed (1410)
[D53] (2)
1.d4 d5 2.c4 ♘f6 3.♘c3 e6 4.c×d5 e×d5 5.♗g5 ♗e7 6.e3 0-0 7.♗d3 h6 8.♗×f6 ♗×f6 9.♘ge2 ♗e6 10.♘f4 ♕d7 11.♕b3 c6 12.♘×e6 f×e6 13.0-0 ♗e7 14.♖ac1 c5 15.d×c5 ♘c6 16.♗b5 a6 17.♗d3 ♖ac8 18.♘a4 ♕e8 19.♗b1 ♖c7 20.♕d3 g6 21.♕×g6+ ♕×g6 22.♗×g6 ♖f6 23.♗h5 ♘e5 24.♖fd1 ♘d7 25.♘b6 ♘×b6 26.c×b6 ♖×c1 27.♖×c1 e5 28.♖c7 ♖c6 29.♖×c6 b×c6 30.b7 ♗d6 31.♗e8 c5 32.♔f1 ♔f8 33.♗c6 d4 34.♔e2 ♔e7 35.h3 ♔f6 36.♗e4 ♔g5 37.e×d4 c×d4 38.g3 a5 39.♔d3 ♔f6 40.♔c4 ♔e6 41.♔b5 ♗c7 42.♔c6 ♗b8 43.♔b6 ♔d6 44.♔×a5 ♔c5 45.b3 ♗c7+ 46.♔a4 ♗b8 47.h4 ♔d6 48.♔b5 d3 49.♗×d3 ♔d5 50.f3 ♔d4 51.♗e4 ♔c3 52.b4 ♔b2 53.a4 ♔c3 54.a5 ♔d4 55.♔b6 h5 56.a6 ♔c4 57.a7 ♗×a7+ 58.♔×a7 ♔×b4 59.b8♕+ ♔c4 60.♕d6 ♔c3 1-0

Harrison,Eva (1543) − Reinke,R (1712)
[A57] (2)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.b3 g6 5.♗b2 ♗g7 6.♘f3 b×c4 7.b×c4 ♕b6 8.♕b3 0-0 9.♘bd2 e6 10.♖b1 ♕×b3 11.a×b3 e×d5 12.♗×f6 ♗×f6 13.c×d5 ♗c3 14.e4 ♖e8 15.♔d1 ♘a6 16.♖c1 ♗g7 17.♗×a6 ♗×a6 18.♖×c5 ♖ac8 19.b4 ♗d3 20.♘e1 ♖×c5 21.b×c5 ♗×e4 22.♘×e4 ♖×e4 23.♘c2 ♗c3 24.♘e3 ♗d4 25.c6 d×c6 26.d×c6 ♗×e3 27.f×e3 ♖c4 28.♔d2 ♖×c6 29.♖a1 a6 30.♔d3 ♔f8 31.e4 ♔e7 32.g3 ♔e6 33.h4 h5 34.♔d4 f6 35.♖a5 ♖b6 36.♔c4 ♖c6+ 37.♔d4 ♔d6 38.e5+ f×e5+ 39.♖×e5 ♖c4+ 40.♔×c4 ♔×e5 41.♔c5 ♔f5 42.♔b6 ♔g4 43.♔×a6 ♔×g3 44.♔b6 ♔×h4 45.♔c5 ♔g4 46.♔d4 h4 47.♔e3 0-1

Kosokin,V (2166) − Ferguson,W (1955)
[B40] (2)
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 c×d4 4.♘×d4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 ♗b4 6.e5 ♘d5 7.♕g4 g6 8.♗d2 ♘×c3 9.b×c3 ♗a5 10.h4 ♕c7 11.♕g3 ♘c6 12.♘×c6 d×c6 13.h5 ♖g8 14.h×g6 h×g6 15.0-0-0 ♕e7 16.♗g5 ♕c5 17.♕d3 ♕d5 18.♖h3 ♗d7 19.c4 ♕×d3 20.♖h×d3 ♗d8 21.♗e3 1-0

Killian,Steve (1722) − Lu,Morgan (1416)
[C41] (2)
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 e×d4 4.♘×d4 ♗e7 5.♘c3 ♘c6 6.♘×c6 b×c6 7.♗e2 ♘f6 8.♗f4 ♗e6 9.0-0 0-0 10.e5 ♘d5 11.♘×d5 c×d5 12.♗f3 c6 13.♖e1 d×e5 14.♗×e5 ♗f6 15.♕d4 ♗×e5 16.♖×e5 ♕b6 17.♕c3 ♖fd8 18.♖d1 ♖d6 19.♖g5 d4 20.♕c5 ♖ad8 21.b3 f6 22.♕×b6 a×b6 23.♖g3 ♗f5 24.♖d2 b5 25.♗e2 ♖d5 26.a4 ♗×c2 27.♖×c2 d3 28.♗×d3 ♖×d3 29.♔f1 ♖×g3 30.h×g3 b×a4 ½-½

Herr,John (1803) − McNeil,David (2020)
[C89] (2)
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4

♘f6 5.0-0 ♗e7 6.♖e1 b5 7.♗b3 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.d3 ♗g4 10.♗g5 d4 11.h3 ♗h5 12.♗×f6 ♗×f6 13.♗d5 ♕d6 14.g4 ♗g6 15.c×d4 e×d4 16.a3 ♖ad8 17.♘bd2 ♘e5 18.♘×e5 ♕×e5 19.♘f3 ♕f4 20.♔g2 ♕d6 21.♖c1 c5 22.♖e2 h5 23.g5 ♗e7 24.h4 ♕f4 25.♖e1 ♔h8 26.♖h1 f6 27.♖h3 f×g5 28.h×g5 ♗×g5 29.♖×c5 h4 30.♗e6 ♗h6 31.♖e5 ♖de8 32.♖×h4 ♕f6 33.♗f5 ♖×e5 34.♘×e5 ♗×f5 35.e×f5 ♕×e5 36.♕g4 ♕×f5 37.♕×d4 ♔g8 38.b4 ♕f3+ 39.♔f1 ♖f6 40.♔g1 ♔h7 41.♖h2 ♕d1+ 0-1

Annotation by Joseph Wan:

Crouse,Tim (1829) − Wan,Joseph (2061)
[C11] (2)
1.♘c3 d5 2.e4 e6 [Tim and I had played the same exact opening in the 2014 Iowa Open, which resulted in a draw.] **3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.e5 ♘fd7 5.d4 c5 6.d×c5 ♗×c5!?** [6...♘c6! 7.♗f4 ♗×c5↑] **7.♗d3 ♘c6 8.♗f4 a6!?** [8...f6! 9.e×f6 ♘×f6 10.♘b5?! 0-0 11.♘c7? e5 12.♘×a8 *(12.♘×e5?? ♕×c7 13.♘g6 ♖e8+ 14.♔d2 ♕f7-+)* 12...e×f4 13.0-0 ♗g4 14.c4 ♕d6 15.c×d5 ♘e5 16.♗e2 ♗×f3 17.♗×f3 ♖×a8-+] **9.0-0 f6 10.e×f6 ♘×f6 11.♕e2?!** [A waste of a tempo.] **11...0-0 12.♗g3?!** [Another tempo wasted.] **12...♘h5!!** [Beautiful positional move. Frees the queen and threatens to get rid of White's dark squared bishop.] **13.♕d2 ♘×g3 14.h×g3 ♕f6 15.♘g5 g6 16.♘f3?** [This is another waste of tempo. White should've just left the knight on "g5" for a few more moves.] **16...♘d4 17.♘×d4 ♗×d4 18.♖ad1 ♗d7** [Getting the last piece out and preparing for 19... ♖ac8.] **19.♗e4!** [Nice tactics by White! White finds the best move and a neat one also!] **19...♗×c3 20.b×c3 ♖ac8 21.♖fe1 ♕×c3 22.♕×c3 ♖×c3** [Black now has a winning ending. And White was in time trouble.] **23.♗d3 ♔f7 24.♖b1 ♖c7!** [24...b5?! blocks the light squared bishop.] **25.♖b4 ♖e8!** [Going for 26... e5.] **26.♖eb1 b5 27.a4? b×a4 28.♖b6 ♖a8 29.♗×a6 ♖×c2 30.♗b5??** [Loses on the spot.] **30...♗×b5 31.♖b7+ ♔f6 32.♖7×b5 a3! 33.♔f1 a2! 34.♖a1 ♖ac8!** [35... ♖c1+ is unstoppable.] **0-1**

Takahashi,M (1516) − Killian,S (1722)
[B01] (3)
1.e4 d5 2.e×d5 ♕×d5 3.♘c3 ♕d6 4.♘f3 ♘f6 5.d4 c6 6.♗e3 ♗g4 7.♗e2 ♘bd7 8.0-0 e6 9.h3 ♗f5 10.♗d3 ♗×d3 11.♕×d3 ♗e7 12.♘d2 0-0 13.♘de4 ♘×e4 14.♘×e4 ♕c7 15.c4 ♖ad8 16.a3 e5 17.♕c3 f5 18.♘g5 e×d4 19.♕×d4 ♗f6 20.♕d2 ♕e5 21.♖ab1 ♘c5 22.♕a5 ♗×g5 23.♕×c5 ♕×c5 24.♗×c5 ♖fe8 25.♗×a7 ♖e2 26.♗e3 f4 27.♗c5 ♖dd2 28.b4 ♗h4 29.b5 f3 30.g×f3 ♖e5 31.b×c6 b×c6 32.♗e3 ♖d6 33.c5 ♖g6+ 34.♔h2 ♗e7 35.♖fc1 ♖f5 36.f4 ♖h5 37.f5 ♖×f5 38.a4 ♖h5 39.a5 ♗d8 40.♖b8 ♖d5 41.a6 ♔f7 42.♖b7+ ♔e6 43.a7 1-0

Ferguson,W (1955) − Thompson,T (1781)
[B12] (3)
1.e4 d6 2.d4 c6 3.♘c3 ♕c7 4.♗e3 e5 5.♕d2 ♘f6 6.f3 ♗e7 7.0-0-0 ♘bd7 8.g4 0-0 9.h4 b5 10.h5 ♕a5 11.♔b1 ♘b6 12.d×e5 d×e5 13.♘d5 ♘f×d5 14.♕×a5 ♘×e3 15.♖e1 ♖d8 16.♕c3 ♘×f1 17.♖×f1 ♘c4 18.♖h2 ♗g5 19.♔a1 ♗d2 20.♖d1 1-0

Medrano,D (1836) − Smith,Harper (1892)
[D12] (3)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 d5 3.c4 c6 4.e3 ♗f5 5.♕b3 ♕c7 6.♘c3 e6 7.♗d2 ♘bd7 8.♖c1 ♕b8 9.♗e2 ♗d6 10.♘h4 ♗g6 11.f4 ♘e4 12.c×d5 ♘×d2 13.♔×d2 c×d5 14.f5 ♗×f5 15.♘×f5 e×f5 16.♕×d5 f4 17.e4 0-0 18.e5 ♗×e5 19.d×e5 ♘×e5 20.♔e1 ♖e8 21.♔f2 f3 22.g×f3 ♕c7 23.♕b5 ♕e7 24.♖hf1 ♕h4+ 25.♔g2 a6 26.♕a4 ♕g5+ 27.♔h1 b5 28.♕d4 ♖ad8 29.♕g1 ♕d2 30.♘e4 ♕h6 31.♖fd1 ♖b8 32.♖d6 ♘g6 33.♖c7 ♕f4 34.♕g3 ♖×e4 35.f×e4 ♕×e4+ 36.♔f3 ♕b4 37.♖d1 ♕×b2 38.♗c4 b×c4 39.♕×f7+ ♔h8 40.♕×g7+ 1-0

Anish Lodh (1414) − John Herr (1803)
[B12] (3)
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5 4.h4 h6 5.♘c3 e6 6.♘f3 ♗b4 7.♗d2 ♘d7 8.♕e2 ♗×c2 9.♗×h6 ♖×h6 10.♕×c2 ♘e7 11.0-0-0 ♘f5 12.g3 ♕a5 13.♔b1 a6 14.♖c1 ♖c8 15.♗d3 g6 16.♕d2 ♖h8 17.♕e2 c5 18.♗×f5 g×f5 19.♘d1 c4 20.♘c3 ♖c6 21.h5 ♖b6 22.♕e3 ♗e7 23.♖c2 ♖c6 24.h6 ♘f8 25.♘g5 ♘g6 26.f3 b5 27.h7 b4 28.♘d1 ♕d8 29.f4 ♖b6 30.♖ch2 a5

31.♕d2 a4 32.♘f3 c3 33.♕c2 ♕a8 34.b3 a×b3 35.a×b3 ♖a6 36.♕d3 ♖a1+ 37.♔c2 ♕a2+ 38.♘b2 ♕×b2# **0-1**

Reedy,Ed (1410) − Kosterman,D (1555)
[A48] (3)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.e3 ♗g7 4.♘c3 0-0 5.♗d3 d5 6.♘e5 ♘bd7 7.f4 c5 8.0-0 c×d4 9.e×d4 e6 10.♗e3 a6 11.g4 ♘×e5 12.f×e5 ♘d7 13.g5 b5 14.♖f4 ♕b6 15.♕f3 ♕c7 16.♖h4 ♖e8 17.♖f1 ♖e7 18.♗f4 ♕a7 19.♔h1 ♕×d4 20.♕h3 ♘f8 21.♖d1 ♕a7 22.♖d2 ♕c7 23.♖e2 ♗b7 24.♘d1 d4+ 25.♔g1 ♗d5 26.b3 ♕b7 27.♘f2 ♖c8 28.♘g4 ♗f3 29.♘f6+ ♗×f6 30.g×f6 ♖ec7 31.♖f2 ♗e4 32.♕g3 ♗×d3 33.♕g5 ♕e4 34.♗d2 ♖×c2 35.♖×e4 ♖×a2 36.♖e1 **1-0**

Willett,J (1588) − Crouse,Tim (1829)
[A15] (3)
1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.b3 ♗g7 4.♗b2 d6 5.♘c3 0-0 6.g3 c6 7.♗g2 ♕a5 8.♕c2 ♘a6 9.a3 ♕h5 10.♘e4 ♘×e4 11.♗×g7 ♔×g7 12.♕×e4 e5 13.0-0 ♘c5 14.♕c2 f5 15.d4 e×d4 16.♘×d4 ♕g5 17.♕c3 ♕f6 18.e3 ♗d7 19.♖fd1 ♘e4 20.♕d3 ♖ae8 21.♖a2 c5 22.♘f3 ♘c3 **0-1**

Peralta,L (1816) − Reinke,R (1712)
[A57] (3)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.c×b5 a6 5.♘c3 a×b5 6.♘×b5 ♕a5+ 7.♘c3 d6 8.♗d2 ♕b6 9.♕c2 g6 10.e4 ♗g7 11.♗b5+ ♗d7 12.♗×d7+ ♘b×d7 13.♘ge2 0-0 14.0-0 ♘g4 15.h3 ♘ge5 16.b3 ♖fc8 17.♗e3 ♕a6 18.f4 ♗d3 19.a3 c4 20.b4 ♘b6 21.b5 ♕a5 22.♗d4 ♕a7 23.♔h2 e5 24.f×e5 ♗×e5+ 25.♗×e5 ♘×e5 26.a4 ♕a5 27.♘d4 ♕b4 28.♘c6 ♕c5 29.♘e7+ **1-0**

Taylor,Sophie (908) − Vigil,Eric (1268)
[C56] (3)
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 ♗d6 4.♗c4 ♘f6 5.0-0 0-0 6.♗g5 e×d4 7.♘×d4 ♘×d4 8.♕×d4 ♖e8 9.♖e1 ♗e5 10.♕d3 ♗×b2 11.♘c3 ♗×a1 12.♖×a1 d6 13.♘d5 ♗e6 14.♕g3 ♗×d5 15.♗×d5 c6 16.♗b3 ♖×e4 17.c3 ♕e8 18.f3 ♖e6 19.♗×e6 ♕×e6 20.♖e1 ♕f5 21.♗×f6 ♕×f6 22.c4 g6 23.♖f1 ♖d8 24.♕e1 ♕d4+ 25.♔h1 ♕×c4 26.♕b1 b5 27.♖c1 ♕d5 28.♕b2 a6 29.♕a3 ♕d2 30.♖g1 ♖e8 31.h3 a5 32.♖f1 ♖e3 33.♕c1 ♕×c1 34.♖×c1 c5 35.♖d1 ♖e6 36.♖b1 b4 37.♖c1 ♔f8 38.♖b1 ♔e7 39.♖c1 ♔d7 40.♖b1 ♔c6 41.♖c1 d5 42.♖d1 c4 43.♖c1 ♔c5 44.♖b1 a4 45.♔g1 b3 46.a×b3 a×b3 47.♔h1 ♔b4 48.♔g1 c3 49.♔h1 d4 50.♔g1 c2 51.♖b2 ♔c3 52.♖b1 c×b1♕+ 53.♔h2 h5 54.♔g3 ♕g1 55.f4 ♖e3+ 56.♔h4 ♕×g2 57.f5 ♕g3# **0-1**

Reinke,R (1712) − Reedy,E (1410)
[B22] (4)
1.e4 c5 2.c3 d6 3.d4 c×d4 4.c×d4 g6 5.h3 ♗g7 6.♘f3 ♘d7 7.♘c3 e6 8.♗e3 ♘e7 9.♗e2 0-0 10.0-0 a6 11.♕d2 f6 12.♖ac1 ♖f7 13.♗c4 ♘b6 14.♗b3 d5 15.e×d5 ♘b×d5 16.♘×d5 ♘×d5 17.♖c2 ♘×e3 18.♕×e3 ♔f8 19.♗×e6 ♖e7 20.d5 ♗×e6 21.d×e6 ♕d6 22.♖e1 ♖ae8 23.♕b3 ♖×e6 24.♖×e6 ♖×e6 25.♖c8+ ♖e8 26.♖×e8+ ♔×e8 27.♕×b7 ♕d1+ 28.♔h2 ♕d6+ 29.g3 ♔f8 30.♕c8+ ♔f7 31.♕c4+ ♔e7 32.♘d4 ♔e8 33.♕e2+ ♔d7 34.♘f3 f5 35.b3 ♗f6 36.♕d2 ♔c6 37.♕c2+ ♕c5 38.♕e2 ♔b7 39.♔g1 ♕c1+ 40.♔g2 ♕c6 41.♔h2 h5 42.♕d3 h4 43.♘×h4 ♗×h4 44.g×h4 ♕c7+ 45.♔g2 ♕c6+ 46.♕f3 ♕×f3+ 47.♔×f3 ♔c6 48.♔f4 ♔c5 49.♔g5 ♔b4 50.♔×g6 ♔a3 51.h5 ♔×a2 52.h6 **1-0**

Harrison,Eva (1543) − Vigil,Eric (1264)
[D31] (4)
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 e6 4.♘c3 d×c4 5.e4 ♘f6 6.♗×c4 ♗b4 7.♗g5 ♕a5 8.♗d2 b5 9.♗d3 0-0 10.0-0 ♕c7 11.a3 ♗e7 12.♘e2 ♘bd7 13.b4 ♗b7 14.♘g3 ♖ad8 15.♖c1 e5 16.♗×b5 e×d4 17.♗e2 ♘e5 18.♘×e5 ♕×e5 19.♗d3 c5 20.b×c5 ♗×c5 21.f4 ♕e7 22.♘f5 ♕c7 23.♗b4 ♘×e4 24.♗×e4 ♗×e4 25.♖×c5 ♕b7 26.♕g4 ♗×f5 27.♖×f5 ♖fe8 28.♖d1 d3 29.♖e5 ♖×e5 30.f×e5 ♕b6+ 31.♔h1 g6 32.h3 ♕e3 33.♗a5 ♖d5 34.♖e1 ♕f2 35.♕c8+ ♔g7 36.♕c3 ♖d4 37.♖d1 ♕e3 38.♗b4 ♕e2 39.♕×d4 ♕×d1+ 40.♔h2 h6 41.e6+ **1-0**

Thompson,T (1781) − Rector,R (1560)
[A84] (4)
1.d4 e6 2.♘f3 f5 3.♗f4 ♘f6 4.e3 d5 5.c4 c6 6.♘c3 ♗b4 7.♖c1 ♘e4 8.♗d3 0-0 9.0-0 ♗×c3 10.b×c3 ♘d7 11.c×d5 e×d5 12.c4 g5 13.♗×e4 g×f4 14.♗d3 f×e3 15.f×e3 ♘f6 16.♘e5 ♘g4 17.♘×g4 f×g4 18.c×d5 c×d5 19.♕c2 ♖×f1+ 20.♖×f1 ♕e7 21.♔h1 ♗e6 22.♗f5 ♖c8 23.♕b1 h5 24.♗×e6+ ♕×e6 25.♕×b7 ♖c2

26.♕b8+ ♔g7 27.♕×a7+ ♔g6 28.♕a4 ♕e4 29.♕a6+ ♔g5 30.♕f6# 1-0

Kosterman,D (1555) − Taylor,S (908)
[C66] (4)
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4.0-0 ♗e7 5.♖e1 0-0 6.c3 d6 7.h3 ♗e6 8.d4 a6 9.♗a4 b5 10.♗c2 ♖e8 11.d5 ♘a5 12.d×e6 f×e6 13.♘bd2 ♘c6 14.♗b3 ♕c8 15.♘g5 d5 16.e×d5 e×d5 17.♘gf3 ♗c5 18.♘f1 ♔h8 19.♗×d5 ♘×d5 20.♕×d5 ♘e7 21.♕×c5 ♘g6 22.♘×e5 ♘h4 23.♕d5 1-0

Crouse,Tim (1829) − McNeil,D (2020)
[A00] (4)
1.♘c3 d5 2.e4 d4 3.♘ce2 e5 4.♘g3 ♘c6 5.♘f3 ♗d6 6.♗c4 f6 7.c3 ♗g4 8.h3 ♗×f3 9.♕×f3 ♘ge7 10.♘h5 ♘g6 11.♘×g7+ ♔e7 12.♘h5 ♘f4 13.g3 ♘×h5 14.♕×h5 ♕e8 15.♕×e8+ ♖a×e8 16.♗b5 ♖ef8 17.♗×c6 b×c6 18.c×d4 e×d4 19.d3 f5 20.0-0 ♖hg8 21.e×f5 ♖×f5 22.♗d2 ♖f3 23.♔g2 ♖×d3 24.♖ad1 ♔e6 25.g4 ♔d5 26.f4 ♖e8 27.♖f2 ♖e4 28.♖df1 c5 29.♗c1 c4 30.♖f3 ♖×f3 31.♖×f3 ♖e1 32.♖f1 ♖×f1 33.♔×f1 ♔e4 34.f5 ♔d3 35.g5 ♔c2 36.g6 h×g6 37.f×g6 ♗e5 38.♗h6 d3 39.♔e1 ♗×b2 40.h4 ♗c3+ 41.♔f2 d2 42.♗×d2 ♔×d2 43.h5 ♗g7 0-1

Herr,J (1803) − Ferguson,W (1955)
[B43] (4)
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 c×d4 4.♘×d4 a6 5.♘c3 ♕c7 6.♗d2 b5 7.a3 ♗b7 8.♗d3 ♘f6 9.♕e2 ♘c6 10.♘×c6 ♗×c6 11.f3 d5 12.e×d5 ♘×d5 13.♘×d5 ♗×d5 14.♗c3 ♖c8 15.♗e5 ♕c6 16.a4 ♗c4 17.a×b5 a×b5 18.0-0 ♗×d3 19.♕×d3 ♗c5+ 20.♔h1 0-0 21.♖fd1 f6 22.♗g3 e5 23.c3 ♔h8 24.♖a5 ♗b6 25.♖×b5 ♖cd8 26.♖d5 h6 27.h3 ♕a4 28.♕e2 ♖×d5 29.♖×d5 ♖b8 30.♗f2 ♗×f2 31.♕×f2 ♕a1+ 32.♔h2 ♖×b2 33.♖d8+ ♔h7 34.♕e3 ♕b1 35.♕d3+ ♕×d3 36.♖×d3 ♖c2 37.♔g1 ♔g6 38.♖e3 ♔f5 39.g3 h5 40.h4 g5 41.h×g5 ♔×g5 42.♔f1 h4 43.g×h4+ ♔×h4 44.♔e1 ♔g3 45.♖d3 f5 46.♖e3 ♔f4 47.♖d3 e4 48.f×e4 f×e4 49.♖h3 e3 50.♖h8 ½-½

Wijetunge,I (1894) − Takahashi,M (1516)
[D00] (4)
1.d4 d5 2.♗f4 e6 3.e3 ♘f6 4.♗d3 c5 5.c3 ♗d6 6.♗g3 0-0 7.♘d2 c4 8.♗c2 b5 9.e4 ♗×g3 10.h×g3 d×e4 11.♘×e4 ♘bd7 12.♕f3 ♖b8 13.♕f4 ♗b7 14.♘g5 h6 15.♘5f3 ♖e8 16.♔f1 a5 17.g4 ♘d5 18.♕h2 ♔f8 19.g5 ♕c7 20.♕h5 ♘f4 21.♕h2 ♘d5 22.♕×c7 ♘×c7 23.g×h6 g×h6 24.♖×h6 ♔e7 25.♖e1 ♖h8 26.♖×h8 ♖×h8 27.♗e4 ♘d5 28.a3 ♘7f6 29.♗×d5 ♘×d5 30.♘e5 ♘f4 31.f3 ♖g8 ½-½

Kosokin,V (2166) − Ellis,J (1910)
[C88] (4)
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♘f6 5.0-0 ♗e7 6.♖e1 b5 7.♗b3 0-0 8.a4 ♖b8 9.c3 d5 10.e×d5 ♘×d5 11.a×b5 a×b5 12.♘×e5 ♘×e5 13.♖×e5 c6 14.d4 ♗d6 15.♖e1 ♕h4 16.g3 ♕h3 17.♗e3 ♗g4 18.♕d3 ♖be8 19.♘d2 ♕h5 20.♗d1 ♘×e3 21.f×e3 ♗×d1 22.♖a×d1 f5 23.♕f1 ♖e6 24.♕f3 ♕h3 25.♕×c6 1-0

Annotated by Joseph Wan:

Saleem,A (2110) − Wan,J (2061)
[A40] (4)
1.d4 e6 2.c4 b6 3.♘f3 ♗b7 4.g3 ♗b4+ 5.♘bd2?! [This it not a good placement of the knight, and allows Black to take advantage of this move with his next move.] **5...♗×f3!! 6.e×f3 ♕f6!** [The "d" pawn is very vulnerable with nothing to protect it.] **7.♕b3?** [This move loses a pawn. 7.d5 e×d5 8.c×d5 ♘e7 9.♗c4=] **7...♘c6!!** [Winning either the "d" or the "f" pawn.] **8.♗g2 ♘×d4 9.♕d3 ♕e5+ 10.♔d1 ♘c6!? 11.f4 ♕d6 12.♕×d6 ♗×d6 13.♗×c6 d×c6 14.♘e4 ♖d8 15.♔e2 c5** [Fixing the "d4" outpost for a future piece.] **16.b3 ♘e7 17.♗b2 0-0 18.♖ad1 ♘c6 19.♖d2 ♗e7 20.♖hd1 ♖×d2+ 21.♖×d2 ♖d8 22.♖×d8+ ♗×d8 23.♔e3 f5 24.♘d2 ♗f6 25.♗×f6 g×f6 26.♘f3 ♔f7 27.h3 h5∓** [Black should be able to win this ending with accurate play.] **28.♘d2 ♘d4 29.♘f3 ♘×f3 30.♔×f3 e5 31.h4 ♔e6 32.♔e3 e4?** [Making it drawn.] **33.f3** [He offered a draw here, but I felt as if I could make some complications for him on the queenside.] **33...e×f3 34.♔×f3 ♔d6 35.♔e3 ♔c6 36.♔d3 ♔b7 37.♔c3 ♔a6 38.a3 c6 39.♔b2 b5 40.♔c2 ♔a5 41.♔b2 ♔b6 42.a4??** [Losing immediately. 42.♔c2 ♔a6 43.♔b2 ♔a5 44.♔c2 ♔b6

45.♔b2 a5 46.♔c2 a4 47.b×a4 b×a4=] **42...♔a5 43.♔a3 a6! 0-1**

Lodh, A (1414) − Kosterman, D (1555) [B22] (5)
1.e4 c5 2.c3 ♘f6 3.e5 ♘d5 4.d4 c×d4 5.c×d4 e6 6.♘f3 d6 7.♗c4 ♘b6 8.♗b5+ ♗d7 9.♗×d7+ ♘8×d7 10.0-0 d×e5 11.d×e5 ♗e7 12.♘c3 0-0 13.♖e1 ♘c5 14.♘d4 a6 15.b3 ♕c7 16.♕f3 ♖ad8 17.♘c2 ♘d3 18.♖e2 ♘×c1 19.♖×c1 ♖d7 20.♖ee1 ♖fd8 21.♕g3 ♖d3 22.♖e3 ♕×c3 23.h3 ♖×e3 24.♕×e3 ♕×e3 25.♘×e3 ♗g5 26.♖c7 ♗×e3 27.f×e3 ♖b8 28.♔f2 ♘d5 29.♖c2 ♘b4 30.♖e2 ♘d3+ 31.♔f3 ♘×e5+ 32.♔f4 ♘g6+ 33.♔e4 ♖d8 34.♖c2 f5+ 35.♔f3 ♘e5+ 36.♔g3 g5 37.♔f2 h5 38.♔e2 ♔f7 39.♖c7+ ♖d7 40.♖c8 ♘g6 41.♖b8 h4 42.♖c8 e5 43.♖c1 e4 44.♖f1 ♔e6 45.♖c1 ♘e5 46.♖c8 f4 47.♖f8 f3+ 48.g×f3 e×f3+ 49.♔e1 ♘d3+ 50.♔f1 ♖c7 51.♖×f3 ♖c1+ 52.♔e2 ♘e5 53.♖f8 ♖c2+ 54.♔f1 ♖×a2 55.♖e8+ ♔f6 56.♖f8+ ♔g7 57.♖e8 ♘f7 58.♖e7 b5 59.e4 ♔f6 60.♖e8 ♖h2 61.♖a8 ♖×h3 62.♖×a6+ ♔e5 63.♖a7 ♖f3+ 64.♔e2 ♔×e4 65.♖e7+ ♔f4 66.♖×f7+ ♔e4 67.♖×f3 g4 68.♖e3+ ♔f4 69.♖d3 h3 70.♔f2 ♔e4 71.♖e3+ ♔f4 72.b4 h2 73.♖e1 g3+ 74.♔g2 ♔g4 75.♖e3 1-0

Takahashi, M (1516) − Crouse, T (1829) [C00] (5)
1.e4 e6 2.c4 c5 3.♘c3 ♘c6 4.♘f3 ♘ge7 5.d4 c×d4 6.♘×d4 ♘×d4 7.♕×d4 ♘c6 8.♕d1 ♗b4 9.♗d2 a6 10.a3 ♗e7 11.♗e3 ♖b8 12.♗e2 0-0 13.0-0 ♗f6 14.♖c1 b6 15.b4 ♗×c3 16.♖×c3 f5 17.e×f5 ♕f6 18.♖c1 ♕×f5 19.♗d3 ♕f7 20.f4 ♕e8 21.♗e4 ♘e7 22.♖e1 ♘f5 23.♗×f5 ♖×f5 24.♕d6 ♗b7 25.♗×b6 ♗c6 26.♗d4 ♖c8 27.♗e5 ♕g6 28.♖e2 ♕g4 29.♖f2 ♖cf8 30.♖c3 ♖5f7 31.♕d4 ♕f5 32.♖g3 g6 33.♕e3 ♕b1+ 34.♖f1 ♕c2 35.♕d4 ½-½

Reinke,R (1712) − Wijetunge,I (1894) [C41] (5)
1.e4 d6 2.d4 ♘f6 3.♘c3 e5 4.♘f3 e×d4 5.♘×d4 ♗e7 6.♗e2 0-0 7.♗f4 ♘bd7 8.♘f5 ♘c5 9.♘×e7+ ♕×e7 10.f3 ♗e6 11.♘d5 ♗×d5 12.e×d5 ♖ae8 13.♗g5 ♕e5 14.♗×f6 g×f6 15.c3 ♕e3 16.♔f1 ♖e5 17.♗c4 ♕f4 18.♕d4 ♖e4 0-1

Ellis,James (1910) − Herr,John (1803) [D17] (5)
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♘c3 d×c4 5.a4 ♗f5 6.♘e5 e6 7.f3 ♗b4 8.e4 ♗g6 9.♗×c4 ♘bd7 10.♘×d7 ♘×d7 11.♗e3 0-0 12.0-0 ♘b6 13.♗a2 ♖e8 14.♘e2 ♕e7 15.♕b3 ♖ad8 16.♖ac1 ♖c8 17.a5 ♘d7 18.♕a4 c5 19.♖fd1 c×d4 20.♘×d4 ♗c5 21.♘c2 ♖cd8 22.b4 ♗×e3+ 23.♘×e3 ♘e5 24.♖×d8 ♖×d8 25.a6 b6 26.♕b3 h5 27.♗b1 ♕g5 28.♖f1 ♖d3 29.♗×d3 ♕×e3+ 30.♔h1 ♘×d3 31.♕c2 ♘×b4 32.♕c8+ ♔h7 33.h3 ♕e2 34.♖c1 ♘d3 35.♖c3 ♘e1 0-1

Karafoil,J (1572) − Killian,S (1722) [A80] (5)
1.d4 f5 2.♘c3 ♘f6 3.♘f3 e6 4.g3 d5 5.♗g2 c6 6.0-0 ♗d6 7.♗g5 h6 8.♗×f6 ♕×f6 9.♕d3 ♘d7 10.♘d2 0-0 11.f3 f4 12.♔f2 e5 13.♔e1 e×d4 14.♘cb1 f×g3 15.h×g3 ♗×g3+ 16.♔d1 ♘c5 17.♕a3 ♗d6 18.♘b3 ♘a6 19.♕a4 b5 20.♕a5 ♗b4 21.♖e1 0-1

Harrison,Eva (1473) − Vigil,Eric (1232) [D31] 11.01.2015
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 e6 4.♘c3 d×c4 5.e4 ♘f6 6.♗×c4 ♗b4 7.♗g5 ♕a5 8.♗d2 b5 9.♗d3 0-0 10.0-0 ♕c7 11.a3 ♗e7 12.♘e2 ♘bd7 13.b4 ♗b7 14.♘g3 ♖ad8 15.♖c1 e5 16.♗×b5 e×d4 17.♗e2 ♘e5 18.♘×e5 ♕×e5 19.♗d3 c5 20.b×c5 ♗×c5 21.f4 ♕e7 22.♘f5 ♕c7 23.♗b4 ♘×e4 24.♗×e4 ♗×e4 25.♖×c5 ♕b7 26.♕g4 ♗×f5 27.♖×f5 ♖fe8 28.♖d1 d3 29.♖e5 ♖×e5 30.f×e5 ♕b6+ 31.♔h1 g6 32.h3 ♕e3 33.♗a5 ♖d5 34.♖e1 ♕f2 35.♕c8+ ♔g7 36.♕c3 ♖d4 37.♖d1 ♕e3 38.♗b4 ♕e2 39.♕×d4 ♕×d1+ 40.♔h2 h6 41.e6+ 1-0

"Self-confidence is very important. If you don't think you can win, you will take cowardly decisions in the crucial moments, out of sheer respect for your opponent. You see the opportunity but also greater limitations than you should. I have always believed in what I do on the chessboard, even when I had no objective reason to. It is better to overestimate your prospects than underestimate them."
- Magnus Carlsen

Brashaw, Kosokin, Saleem Tie for Leatherjackets Title.
By Mark Capron

Dan Brashaw, Valeriy Kosokin, and Arshaq Saleem each scored 4 from 5 to tie for the 2015 Leatherjackets title and score the last of the precious Qualifier Points. The 9.67 qualifier points each player received catapulted all into the Iowa Closed or so it would have seemed. The wildcard was that Wesley Ferguson (long time IASCA member, former Iowan and now lives in WI) played in enough events to gain qualifier points and thus the recalculation began. When the dust settled Wes qualified for the 6th spot, leaving Valeriy Kosokin as the first alternate.

David Taylor strutted his stuff in going undefeated with a perfect 4/4 in the 32 player Reserve section. Way to go Dave!

In the Open section Joseph Wan's Closed aspirations were crushed when Wes Ferguson beat him in the last round. This also put Wes into the 6th spot of the Closed. Next year Joseph, Next year!

The tournament was ably directed by Shawn Kmetz. Thank you to Bob Keating for providing the excellent facilities at the Physician Clinic of Iowa, Medical Pavillion in Cedar Rapids.

Thank you to the players who sent in games from the Leatherjackets.

#	Player	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	Brashaw, Daniel	2210*	2218*	W10	W15	D7	D4	W8	4.0
2	Kosokin, Valeriy	2172*	2186*	W12	W5	D4	W7	D3	4.0
3	Saleem, Arshaq	2076*	2096*	W19	W8	D6	W15	D2	4.0
4	Keating, Robert F	2188*	2195*	W11	W16	D2	D1	D7	3.5
5	Koenig, Seth A	1992*	1997*	W17	L2	D11	W19	W9	3.5
6	Ferguson, Wesley	1966*	1975*	D21	W23	D3	D9	W16	3.5
7	Neal, James Alex,	2113*	2117*	W13	W9	D1	L2	D4	3.0
8	Hodina, James	1925*	1938*	W22	L3	W14	W16	L1	3.0
9	Ellis, James S	1909*	1900*	W18	L7	W23	D6	L5	2.5
10	Gaul, Thomas	1825*	1824*	L1	W20	L15	D14	W21	2.5
11	Medrano, Daniel	1862*	1863*	L4	W21	D5	D12	D13	2.5
12	White, James Lee	1826*	1832*	L2	W17	L16	D11	W20	2.5
13	Krishnamurthy, Pr	1757*	1748*	L7	D18	D21	W17	D11	2.5
14	Carson, Bethany	1638*	1662*	L16	B0	L8	D10	W19	2.5
15	Reynolds, Robert	2076*	2065*	W20	L1	W10	L3	U0	2.0
16	Wan, Joseph Cheng	2079*	2049*	W14	L4	W12	L8	L6	2.0
17	Takahashi, Michae	1616*	1607*	L5	L12	B0	L13	W22	2.0
18	Capron, Mark	1352*	1361*	L9	D13	L20	B0	H0	2.0
19	Patterson, Steven	1747*	1724*	L3	W22	H0	L5	L14	1.5
20	Killian, Steve	1669*	1649*	L15	L10	W18	D21	L12	1.5
21	Jetty, Milind	1581*	1593*	D6	L11	D13	D20	L10	1.5
22	Lu, Morgan	1529*	1519*	L8	L19	H0	W23	L17	1.5
23	Rector, Richard	1530*	1503*	B0	L6	L9	L22	U0	1.0

#	Player	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	T
1	Taylor, David	1384*	1495*	W16	W14	W10	W6	4.0
2	Palaniappan, Arju	1354*	1479*	W25	W31	W4	D5	3.5
3	Lodh, Anish	1483*	1493*	W7	W12	L6	W14	3.0
4	Chen, Nathan	1434*	1441*	B0	W13	L2	W16	3.0
5	Kozich, Andrew Jo	1366*	1404*	D31	W27	W23	D2	3.0
6	Gonzalez-Mule, Er	1352/23	1421*	W17	W24	W3	L1	3.0
7	Felgar, Stan	1314*	1331*	L3	W18	W19	W21	3.0
8	Bostwick, Zach K	1203/04	1335/08	L12	W32	W11	W13	3.0
9	Huerter, Nikalaus	1187*	1297*	W20	L11	W24	W12	3.0
10	Ciha, Trevor Lee	1207*	1292*	W28	W25	L1	W22	3.0
11	Johnson, Robert A	1489*	1450*	L13	W9	L8	W23	2.0
12	Carson, Tim	1365*	1352*	W8	L3	W27	L9	2.0
13	Denison, Christin	1366*	1359*	W11	L4	W17	L8	2.0
14	Carson, Charity	1298*	1313*	W22	L1	W18	L3	2.0
15	Vigil, Eric Golf	1259*	1222*	L24	W19	L21	W28	2.0
16	Vongpanya, Sayoth	1201*	1191*	L1	W29	W20	L4	2.0
17	Gururaja, Akash	1090*	1080*	L6	W28	L13	W29	2.0
18	Vigil, Barry	1000*	1109*	W21	L7	L14	W25	2.0
19	Lodh, Anjali	782*	930*	W26	L15	L7	W27	2.0
20	Vigil, Crissy	747*	861*	L9	W30	L16	W26	2.0
21	Hammar, Derek All	869/00	1163/04	L18	W26	W15	L7	2.0
22	Gatton, Albert A	1441*	1372*	L14	D23	W29	L10	1.5
23	Selva, Karthik B	1139*	1140*	W32	D22	L5	L11	1.5
24	Jacobs, Steve	1400*	1400*	W15	L6	L9	U0	1.0
25	Reedy, Edward	1330*	1300*	L2	L10	W32	L18	1.0
26	Denison, Ana L	1113*	1022*	L19	L21	W30	L20	1.0
27	Jetty, Teja	1101*	1054*	W30	L5	L12	L19	1.0
28	Ryder, Cynthia E	607*	600*	L10	L17	B0	L15	1.0
29	Domer, Brandon La	587/10	581/13	B0	L16	L22	L17	1.0
30	Tully, Lucas John	847/00	705/04	L27	L20	L26	W32	1.0
31	Broich, William	1518*	1488*	D5	L2	U0	U0	0.5
32	Taylor, Dylan	732/12	693/16	L23	L8	L25	L30	0.0

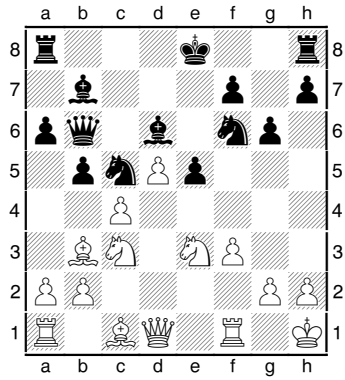
Games:

Taylor,David (1384) – Ciha,Trevor (1207)
[C10] Reserve (3)
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 c5 4.e×d5 e×d5 5.d×c5 ♗×c5 6.♕×d5 ♕×d5 7.♘×d5 ♘a6 8.♗×a6 b×a6 9.♘c7+ ♔d7 10.♘×a8 ♗b7 11.♘e2 ♗×g2 12.♖g1 ♗×a8 13.♖×g7 ♗d5 14.b3 ♘f6 15.♗b2 ♔e7 16.♖g5 ♖d8 17.0-0-0 ♗×f2 18.♗×f6+ ♔×f6 19.♖g×d5 ♗e3+ 20.♔b1 ♖×d5 21.♖×d5 ♔e6 22.♖a5 f5 23.♖×a6+ ♔e5 24.♖a5+ ♔e4 25.♘g3+
1-0

Gonzalez-Mule,E (1352) – Taylor,D (1384)
[D15] Reserve (4)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 d5 4.♘f3 ♗g4 5.♗g5 ♘bd7 6.c×d5 c×d5 7.e3 ♕a5 8.♗d3 ♘e4 9.♗×e4 d×e4 10.h3 ♗×f3 11.g×f3 ♕×g5 12.♘×e4 ♕a5+ 13.♘c3 e6 14.♖g1 g6 15.a3 ♗g7 16.b4 ♕d8 17.f4 0-0 18.♖c1 ♘b6 19.♘e4 ♖c8 20.♘c5 ♕e7 21.♕d3 ♘d5 22.♔e2 ♕h4 23.♘×b7 ♖c1 24.♖×c1 ♗h6 25.♕c4 ♕×h3 26.♘d6 ♕g4+ 27.♔d3 ♕f3 28.♖c2 ♗×f4 29.♘b7 ♗×e3 30.f×e3 ♕×e3#
0-1

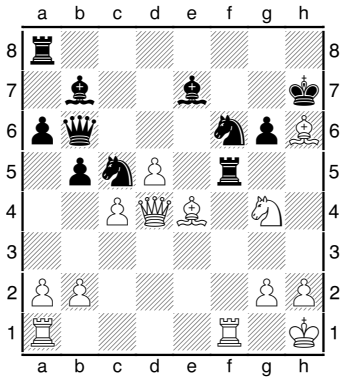
Annotations by Arshaq Saleem:

Patterson,S (1738) − Saleem,A (2076)
[B55] (1)
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 c×d4 4.♘×d4 ♘f6 5.f3!? [This move is quite interesting, but not that common these days] **5...e5 6.♗b5+** [This move justifies White's omission of ♘c3. White is trying to gain access to the f5-square.] **6...♘bd7** [6...♗d7?! This move plays right into White's hands. 7.♗×d7+ ♕×d7 *(7...♘b×d7 8.♘f5 ♕c7 9.♘c3*± White has a firm grip on the d5-square (as it turns out though, Black might be all right after 8...d5 in this variation)*)* 8.♘f5 d5 9.♗g5 d×e4 10.♗×f6 ♕×d1+ 11.♔×d1 g×f6 12.f×e4± This is not pleasant for Black due to his shattered pawn formation and White's strong knight.] **7.♘f5 d5!** [This pawn sac provides good compensation for Black.] **8.e×d5 a6 9.♗a4** [9.♗×d7+ ♕×d7! 10.♘e3 b5 11.♘c3 ♗b7 12.0-0 b4 13.♘e4 ♘×d5∓ Black's more active pieces and bishop−pair grant him a slight advantage.] **9...b5 10.♗b3 ♘c5?!** [A natural but inaccurate move. 10...♘b6 This move is played more often in practice with good results for Black. 11.♘e3 ♗c5 12.♘c3 0-0 Black has good compensation for the pawn thanks to his active pieces.] **11.♘e3 ♗b7?!** [This move is not very good either because of White's response. 11...♗d6⩱ This is better, because now on 12.c4 ♕c7 13.♘c3 e4⇄ Black at least has some counter−play here.] **12.c4!** [This move somewhat surprised me, however it is quite logical as it simply defends White's strong−point on d5 12.♘c3 I expected this, when I was planning 12...♘×b3 13.a×b3 b4 followed by taking on d5 with a decent game.] **12...g6** [I wanted to cover the f5-square, so I could develop my bishop without it being harassed by ♘f5. 12...b×c4 This is relatively best 13.♗×c4 ♖c8 14.♘c3 ♗d6 15.♘f5 0-0 16.0-0 ♖e8 17.♗g5± White's extra pawn is being felt.] **13.0-0 ♗d6?!** [13...♗g7! Putting the bishop on this square is more consistent. 14.♕e2 0-0 15.♘c3 ♖c8⇄ White is probably still better, but Black's activity grants him good counter−play.] **14.♘c3 ♕b6 15.♔h1±** [I really did not realize how



bad my position was.] **15...0-0 16.f4?** [This move gives away the advantage, but the position is a bit tricky. After the simpler 16.♗c2 ♖ac8 17.b3± White has consolidated his pawn and has kept Black's activity under control.] **16...e×f4 17.♘g4 ♘h5?** [A terrible decision that completely overlooks my opponent's next move. I thought I was better after ♘h5, but my assessment was far from correct. After 17...♘×g4! 18.♕×g4 ♘d3 19.♕f3 ♘×c1 20.♖a×c1 b×c4 21.♗×c4 ♖ae8↑ Black's activity gives him the initiative.] **18.♕d4!** [I missed this move during my analysis. White is threatening ♘h6 checkmate!] **18...h6??** [This move loses, but my alternative isn't very inspiring. 18...f6 This is what I originally calculated, but I rejected it due to 19.♘e4 ♗e7 *(19...♔g7 20.♘×d6 ♕×d6 21.♗×f4*→ White has a strong attack.*)* 20.d6! ♗×e4 21.d×e7+-] **19.♘e4! ♗e7?** [White is winning in any case, but this allows White a quicker win. 19...f5 20.♘×d6 ♕×d6 21.♘×h6+ ♔h7 22.♗×f4 ♘×f4 23.♖×f4+ - Black will get checkmated sooner or later.] **20.♘×h6+?** [Still good, but missing an easier win. 20.d6! ♗×e4 21.d×e7 ♖fe8 22.♖×f4! I missed this move. 22...♖×e7 23.♘h6+ ♔h7 24.♖×f7+ ♖×f7 25.♘×f7+- White is up two pawns and has a winning attack.] **20...♔h7 21.♘g4?!** [21.d6! This move is a recurring theme 21...♗×d6 *(21...♗×e4!* This is the only defense *22.d×e7*

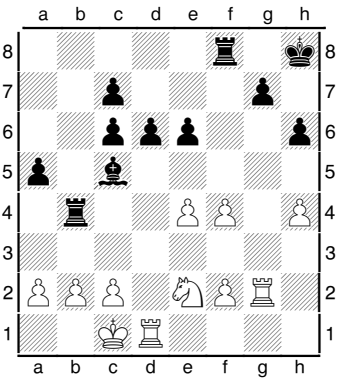
♗×g2+! 23.♔×g2 ♕b7+ 24.♔g1 ♕×e7⇄ The position at least remains complicated.*)* 22.♕×d6 ♕×d6 23.♘×d6 ♔×h6 24.♘×b7 ♘×b7 25.g4!+- White's extra pawns will decide in the endgame.] **21...f5 22.♗×f4!** [White's attack will soon become too strong to handle.] **22...f×e4 23.♗h6?** [Black is better after this mistake. 23.d6! White still has some initiative after this. 23...♖×f4 24.♖×f4 ♘×f4 25.d×e7 ♕e6! 26.♘f6+ ♔h6 27.♖f1↑] **23...♖f5 24.♗c2 ♘f6??** [Missing how many pins I'm in! 24...b×c4 is good for Black; 24...♗f6! This is probably best. 25.♕e3 ♕d6! 26.♖×f5 g×f5 27.♘×f6+ ♕×f6 28.♕×c5 ♕×h6∓ Black's extra piece tips the balance in his favor.] **25.♗×e4!** [I'm com-



pletely pinned up: My knight on c5 can't move because of ♕×b6, the f6-knight can't move due to ♕g7 mate, and trading rooks on the f-file brings the sleeping giant on a1 into the game with decisive effect.] **25...♖g8?** [This makes the win easy for White. 25...♘a4! 26.♕×b6 ♘×b6 27.♗×f5 g×f5 28.♖ae1 ♘×g4 29.♖×e7+ ♔×h6 30.♖e6+ ♔g5 31.♖×b6± White has very good winning chances here.] **26.♖×f5!+-** [I missed this strong, yet simple, attacking move, bringing the bishop into the attack. 26.♗×f5 g×f5 27.♘×f6+ ♕×f6∞ this was my idea] **26...g×f5?** [This loses even quicker, but everything else is also terrible. 26...♘×g4 27.♖f7+ ♔×h6 28.♖×e7 ♘a4 29.♕×b6 ♘×b6 30.♖×b7+-] **27.♗×f5+ ♔h8 28.♘e5 ♖e8 29.♗g6** [White is still easily winning, but sliding the queen to the kingside would've been faster. 29.♕h4!+- Black's king won't survive for long.] **29...♖c8 30.♖e1** [Black will be checkmated soon after 30.♕h4+-] **30...♔g8 31.♘d7?** [This move wins as well, but bringing the queen over to finish the job would have been much simpler.] **31...♘c×d7 32.♖×e7??** [White isn't delivering mate here, so Black is winning. 32.♕×b6 White would still be winning after this. 32...♘×b6 33.♖×e7+-] **32...♕×d4+ 33.h3 ♕h4 34.♗d2 ♖×c4 35.♗c3 ♗×d5 36.♗d3 ♕×h3+** [I was under a severe attack and White could've finished me off in a few different ways. But this game shows to tell that even slight mistakes in sharp positions (e.g. 17...♘h5) can lead to serious repercussions. All in all, my opponent played very well to get a winning attack, but a miscalculation at the end turned the tables.] **0-1**

Annotations by Mark Capron:

Capron,M (1352) − Ellis,J (1909)
[C47](1)
Psychology can play havac with a player. For example, I had felt like I lost this game vs. Jim Ellis after his **18. ...□ ♖b4**. I responded with a move that looked like it might cause some difficulties **19.♖dg1?**, but I should have looked deeper.



If I had, I might have seen 19.e5!∓ and been only slightly worse. But this is not the end of the problem. As Nikolai Krogius wrote in his book *Psychology in Chess*,

"When a piece comes to the end of its life this last moment of its existence evokes a particular concentration and there is a consequent difficulty in switching the attention to other objects." I needed to get myself out of the mode of losing and try to decide how to transfer attention to something positive. I should be looking for wins, tricks, traps or else I should resign...Why keep playing if your not focusing properly? **19...♖×e4 20.♖×g7?** [Ok now I am really losing. 20.♔d2 was better. Still reeling from black's move 18 I miss my chance when Black totally blunders.] **20...♖×e2??** [20...♗×f2! Was an immediate win. Instead of responding with the appropriate ♖7g6= and generating a draw I played **♖×c7??** and went on to lose. 21.♖7g6!!= ♔h7 *(21...♖f7 22.♖×h6+ ♖h7 23.♖hg6 ♖×h4 24.♖g8+ ♔h7 25.♖8g7+ ♔h6 26.♖1g6+ ♔h5 27.♖g5+ ♔h6* and a draw will result by perpetual check.*)* 22.♖g7+ ♔h8 23.♖7g6 draw. Live, Learn, and get better. Lessons are hard, but necessary!]

Hodina,J (1925) − Lu,M (1529)
[A34] (1)
1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.d4 d5 3.c4 e6 4.g3 ♗e7 5.♗g2 0-0 6.0-0 c5 7.c×d5 ♘×d5 8.♘c3 ♘×c3 9.b×c3 ♘c6 10.♖b1 c×d4 11.c×d4 ♗f6 12.e3 ♕c7 13.♕c2 ♗d7 14.♗a3 ♖fd8 15.♘d2 ♖ac8 16.♖fc1 ♕a5 17.♕b2 b5 18.♗c5 ♘e7 19.♘e4 ♘d5 20.♘d6 ♖c7 21.e4 ♘b6 22.e5 ♗e7 23.♘b7 ♖×b7 24.♗×b7 ♗×c5 25.d×c5 ♘c4 26.♕b4 ♕c7 27.c6 ♗×c6 28.♗×c6 ♕×c6 29.♕×b5 ♕×b5 30.♖×b5 ♘b6 31.♖c7 ♔f8 32.♖×a7 ♘d5 33.♖bb7 1-0

Carson, B (1638) vs Wan, J (2079)
[C01] (1)
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e×d5 e×d5 4.♘f3 ♗d6 5.♗d3 ♘e7 6.♘c3 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.♖e1 ♗f5 9.♗×f5 ♘×f5 10.♕d3 ♘h4 11.♘×h4 ♕×h4 12.g3 ♕h3 13.♘e2 ♖e8 14.♗f4 ♗f8 15.♗×b8 ♖a×b8 16.♘f4 ♕d7 17.♕f3 ♕f5 18.♕d3 ♕d7 19.♖e3 ♗d6 20.♘g2 ♖ec8 21.c3 ♕d8 22.♖ae1 ♕d7 23.♘h4 g6 24.♔g2 ♖d8 25.♘f3 ♕c7 26.♘e5 c5 27.d×c5 ♗×c5 28.♖f3 ♖e8 29.♕×d5 ♖bd8 30.♕×f7+ ♕×f7 31.♖×f7 ♖d5 32.♖×b7 ♖d×e5 33.♖×e5 ♖×e5 34.♔f1 ♗b6 35.♖d7 ♖f5 36.f4 g5 37.♖d2 g×f4 38.g×f4 ♖×f4+ 39.♔g2 ♔f7 40.♔g3 ♖f6 41.c4 ♖c6 42.b3 ♔e6 43.♔f3 ♖c5 44.♔e4 ♖e5+ 45.♔d3 ♖e3+ 46.♔c2 ♖h3 47.b4 ♗g1 48.c5 ♖×h2 49.♖×h2 ♗×h2 50.b5 ♔d5 51.b6 a6 52.a4 a5 53.♔d3 ♔×c5 54.b7 ♔b4 55.♔c2 ♔×a4 56.♔b2 ♗b8 0-1

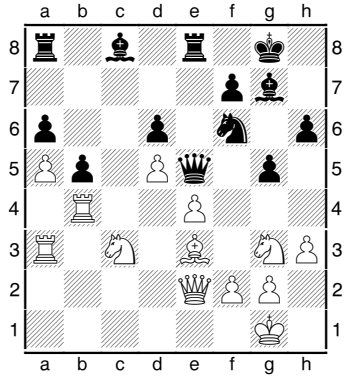
Annotations by Dan Brashaw and the Cedar Rapids Chess Club:

Brashaw,D (2216) − Reyolds,R (2079)
[B12] (2)
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 e6 4.♘c3 ♗b4 5.♗f4 ♘f6 6.e5 ♘fd7 [Δc5.] **7.♘ge2 c5 8.a3 ♗×c3+ 9.♘×c3** [Δ ♘b5-d6. If 9.b×c3 It's hard for white to develop his knight and bishop with utility since the knight can't sit on f3. 9...♘c6 10.♗e3 black's ♗c8 is out of play ♕a5 11.♕d2 b6 12.g4 ♗a6 13.♘g3 ♗×f1 14.♔×f1 c4 allowing white to push 15.f4 0-0-0 16.f5∞] **9...0-0 10.♘b5 ♘c6** [looking at Qb6 threatening d4 and b2] **11.c3 a6** [11...♕b6 12.♗e3 a6 13.♘d6 ♕×b2 14.♕c1 ♕×c1+ 15.♖×c1 c4] **12.♘d6 f6 13.d×c5 f×e5** [13...♘d×e5 14.♗e3] **14.♗e3 ♕f6 15.♗e2 ♕g6 16.0-0** [16.♕d2 ♕×g2 17.♖g1 ♕×h2 18.0-0-0 g6] **16...♘f6 17.♗d3 ♕h5** [17...e4 18.f×e4 ♘×e4 19.♖×f8+ ♔×f8 20.♕f3+ Δ ♖f1 doubling.] **18.b4 d4 19.♗d2 ♘d5** [19...d×c3 20.♗×c3 ♘d4 21.♗c4 setting up and x-ray on the king through e6 ♔h8 22.♗×d4 e×d4 23.♕×d4 e5 24.♕e3 ♖e8] **20.c4 ♘f4 21.♗e4 ♖f6 22.♗×f4 e×f4 23.b5 ♘e5** [23...♕×c5 24.b×c6 ♕×d6 25.c×b7 ♗×b7 26.♗×b7 ♖b8 27.♗e4 ♖b2] **24.♕×d4 ♖h6 25.♔f2! a×b5** [25...♕×h2 26.-- ♕g3+ 27.♔e2 ♕×g2+ 28.♖f2] **26.c×b5 ♘d7 27.♖ac1**
1-0

Annotations by Arshaq Saleem:

Saleem,A (2076) − Hodina,J (1938)
[A77] (2)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 c5 4.d5 e×d5 5.c×d5 d6 6.♘f3 g6 [This opening is the Modern Benoni.] **7.♘d2 ♗g7 8.e4 ♘bd7 9.♗e2 0-0 10.0-0 a6** [One of Black's common ideas in this structure is to go play b5 and start queenside counter−play. This is almost invariably met by] **11.a4 ♖e8 12.h3!?** [So far, both sides have played quite normal moves for this open−

ing. The move h3 serves mainly as a waiting move to see Black's intentions.] **12...♕c7 13.♖e1 g5!** [Another typical idea for the Benoni. Black is trying to create an outpost for one of his knights on e5. The purpose of g5 is to control the f4-square, to ensure that when his knight arrives on e5, it won't be kicked around by f4.] **14.♖a3!?** [This is a prophylactic move that covers the third-rank and also signals an eventual rook-swing over to g3 if White gets an attack going.] **14...h6 15.♕c2 ♘e5 16.♘f1** [Trying to come to g3 to control the f5-square (Black weakened this square when he played g5).] **16...♘g6 17.♘g3 ♕e7 18.♗e3 ♕e5** [It seemed at this point that Black came out of the opening with no problems, but Black also doesn't have an obvious plan to improve his position.] **19.♖b1** [I was trying to go b4 to chip away at Black's c5-pawn.] **19...♘f4 20.b4 b6 21.a5** [Hitting at the base of Black's pawn chain.] **21...♘×e2+ 22.♕×e2 c×b4 23.♖×b4 b5** [This type of position I was aiming for when I played b4. Black has a protected passed



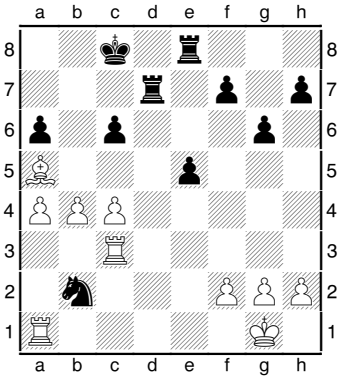
pawn on b5, but it is firmly blockaded for the moment, and White can try to maneuver his knight to c6.] **24.♗d4 ♕f4 25.♗e3 ♕e5 26.♕d2** [I want to go f4 and start my kingside play.] **26...♗d7?** [This allows me to continue my plan. 26...♕e7 27.f3 ♗d7 28.♘ce2± White will play ♘d4, and his control over the f5-square should give him some advantage.] **27.f4 g×f4 28.♗×f4 ♕e7 29.♘d1!** [The knight heads to e3, when the f5-square will be a point of conquest. 29.♗×h6 I knew that this was good, but I thought Black had some compensation after 29...♕e5] **29...♖ac8 30.♘e3 ♗f8 31.♘ef5 ♗×f5 32.♘×f5** [White's pieces are all in prime position to attack the weakened Black king.] **32...♕c7 33.♘×h6+?** [This move doesn't give away the advantage, but there was an easier finish to the game. 33.♖g3+ ♔h7 34.♗×h6 White will either give checkmate or enter a winning endgame. 34...♘×e4 35.♖×e4! ♖×e4 36.♗×f8 ♕c1+ 37.♕×c1 ♖×c1+ In my head, I didn't see that the rook wouldn't be attacking the bishop anymore. 38.♔h2+-] **33...♔h7 34.♘g4?** [34.♘f5! ♕c5+ 35.♖e3 ♕c1+ 36.♕×c1 ♖×c1+ 37.♔f2 ♖c2+ 38.♔f3±] **34...♘×g4 35.h×g4 ♗g7** [35...♔g8! a very hard move to find. 36.♖h3 ♗g7 37.♗h6 ♕c5+ 38.♔h1 ♖e7 39.♕f4 ♕c2 40.♕g5! f6 41.♕g6 ♖c3 42.♖×c3 ♕×c3 43.♖b1± White still retains a big advantage.] **36.♖h3+ ♔g6?** [36...♔g8! This is the best defense. 37.♗h6 ♕c2 38.♕g5 ♕d1+ 39.♔h2 ♕a1 40.♗×g7 ♕×g7 41.♕f5 ♕e5+ 42.♕×e5 ♖×e5 43.♖h6 ♖d8 44.♔g3± Black might be able to hold here.] **37.♗h6 ♗f6?** [This loses, but Black has a very difficult position. 37...f6 38.♕f4 ♖e5 39.♖b1! ♕a7+ 40.♔f1 ♖h8 41.♗×g7 ♕×g7 42.♖c1 ♖×h3 43.g×h3± White has excellent winning chances.] **38.e5 d×e5 39.d6 ♕c2 40.d7 ♕×d2 41.♗×d2** [This game was essentially a battle of strategies. White was able to get his break in (f4), but Black lacked the queenside play to compensate for White's attack.] **1-0**

Annotations by Robert Keating:

Wan,Joseph (2079) − Keating,R (2188) [B06] (2)

1.d4 g6 2.e4 ♗g7 3.♘f3 d6 4.♘c3 a6 5.♗e2 ♘d7 6.0-0 c5 7.♗e3 c×d4 8.♗×d4 ♘gf6 [Black's setup has transitioned from the Modern Defense to what appears to be a form of Sicilian Dragon. White has castled kingside, which makes Black feel a bit safer; however, Black needs one more move to castle and solid-

ify his position.] **9.e5** [With the Black king still in the center, it seems reasonable for White to play the most direct challenge to Black's position. Black is not really in danger, though, since he will gain a tempo to castle when White makes his final recapture.] **9...d×e5 10.♘×e5 ♘×e5 11.♗×e5 ♕a5?!** [Castling would have been better, although I did not wish to see the game reduced to another drawish ending similar to the previous round. 11...0-0 12.♕×d8 ♖×d8 13.♗f3 ♗f5 14.♗×b7 ♖a7 15.♗f3 ♗×c2=] **12.♘d5!** [Very sharp! White grabs the 2 bishop advantage in an open position with this tactical strike based on the undefended ♗g7.] **12...♕×d5 13.♕×d5 ♘×d5 14.♗×g7 ♖g8 15.♗d4** [White has a clear positional advantage. I had to be careful not to drift into passivity and sought to vigorously challenge White's bishops.] **15...♗d7 16.c4 ♘f4 17.♗f3 ♗c6 18.♗×c6+ b×c6** [Having a damaged pawn structure seemed worth it to neutralize the 2 bishop advantage. Black's weak pawns will be difficult to attack since they are on closed files and White's only minor piece can only play on half the squares of the board.] **19.♖fe1 0-0-0 20.♗c3 ♖d7 21.♗a5?!** [From this lateral outpost, the bishop attacks squares that Black would like to use for his king and ♖g8; however, the bishop is a bit out of play and Black can strike back in the center.] **21...♖e8 22.♖e3 ♘d3** [Black's knight is very strong on this virtual outpost. It cannot be attacked by White's bishop, and Black has time to play e5-e4, supporting the knight with a pawn, if he wishes.] **23.b4 e5 24.a4** [White's area of advantage is the queenside, and using his pawns to create a passed pawn is his logical strategy. Fortunately for Black, the White back rank is vulnerable and the White rooks are divided by the ♘d3. Also, Black seems ready to concentrate enough pieces, including his king, in front of the White pawns to erect a blockade.] **24...♘b2?!** [Abandoning its excellent outpost for material gain seemed like a good idea at the time; however, Black could have achieved the same goal with some less risky maneuvering. 24...e4 25.f3 f5 26.b5 c×b5 27.a×b5 a×b5 28.c×b5 ♖d5 29.♖b1 ♔b7 30.h3 ♖ee5 31.f×e4 f×e4 32.♗d2 ♔b6∓] **25.♖c3** [White offered a draw here, but I'm sure he knew he was worse off. Now,



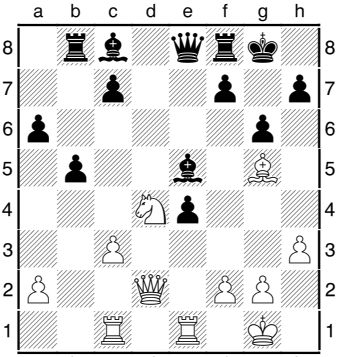
Black must decide whether to win the a4 pawn straight away, using the threat of ♖d1#, or to intensify his attack by threatening the c4 pawn.] **25...♖d4!** [Choosing the right plan, Black eschews the simple gain of material in favor of maintaining a dominant position with the potential for greater material gain. 25...♘×a4? This loses since the knight becomes trapped and Black must give back the pawn and the initiative in order to save it. 26.♖b3 ♔b7 27.c5 ♖d2 28.f3 ♘b2 29.b5±] **26.♖c2** [26.♖h3 ♘×c4 27.♖×h7 ♘×a5 28.b×a5 ♖e7∓] **26...♘×c4 27.♖ac1 ♘×a5 28.b×a5 ♖e6 29.♖c4** [Black is winning. White can regain 1 pawn but not more due to his weak back rank. Black will continue with the superior position as White must defend his weak a-pawns. 29.♖×c6+ ♖×c6 30.♖×c6+ ♔d7 31.♖c1 ♖×a4-+] **29...♔d7 30.♔f1 ♖ed6 31.♖c5 ♖d1+ 32.♖×d1 ♖×d1+ 33.♔e2 ♖d5 34.♖c2 ♖×a5 35.♖c4 ♔d6 36.♔e3 ♔d5 37.♖b4 f5 38.♔d3** [Although Black is better, the ending can be tricky since White's rook has open lines and potential targets to attack on the kingside. Also, 1 extra pawn (or even 2 if bishop and rook pawns) will not guarantee a win.] **38...g5** [38...e4+! 39.♔e3 c5 40.♖b7

c4 41.♖d7+ ♔c6 42.♖×h7 c3 43.♔e2 ♖×a4-+] **39.f3 ♔c5** [39...c5 40.♖b8 *(40.♖c4 h5 41.♔c3 e4 42.f×e4+ f×e4 43.♔b3 e3-+)* 40...♖×a4 41.♖d8+ ♔e6 42.♖e8+ ♔d6 43.♖d8+ ♔c7 44.♖f8 e4+ 45.f×e4 f×e4+ 46.♔e3 ♔c6 47.♖f5 ♖d4 48.♖×g5 a5 49.♖g7 h5 50.h4 a4 51.g4 ♖d3+ 52.♔f4 h×g4 53.♔×e4 ♖h3 54.♖a7 ♖×h4 55.♔f4-+] **40.♔c3 ♔d6 41.g4 ♖c5+ 42.♔d3 ♖d5+ 43.♔e3 f4+ 44.♔e2 ♖d4 45.♖b7 ♖×a4 46.♖×h7 ♔d5 47.h4 g×h4 48.♖×h4** [Now, White at least has a passed pawn to use for some dangerous counter−play.] **48...♔d4 49.g5 ♖a2+ 50.♔f1** [White again offered a draw, but the outcome was all too clear at this point.] **50...♖b2** [playing it safe and ensuring the g−pawn can be caught. 50...♔e3! 51.g6 ♖a1+ 52.♔g2 e4 53.g7 e×f3+ 54.♔h2 ♖a2+ 55.♔h3 f2 56.♖×f4 ♔×f4-+] **51.g6 ♖b8 52.♖h7 ♖g8 53.♖a7 ♔e3 54.♖×a6 ♔×f3 55.♖×c6 e4 56.♖e6 e3 57.♖b6 ♖a8 58.♖b1 ♖a6 59.g7 ♖g6 60.♖b2 ♖×g7 61.♖b3 ♖a7 62.♖b1 ♖a2 63.♖c1 ♖d2 64.♔g1 ♔e2 65.♖c8 f3 66.♖f8 f2+ 67.♔g2 ♖d1** [This was a good win for me against a strong opponent. He played aggressively in the opening and gained an advantage; how−ever, the strength of my knight and its virtual outpost on d3 shifted the balance of power to Black. Solid technique was re−quired in the ending, and this time I did not mess it up.] **0-1**

Hodina,J (1925) − Carson,B (1638)
[A30] (2)
1.♘f3 c5 2.c4 d6 3.d4 c×d4 4.♘×d4 g6 5.g4 ♗g7 6.♗g2 ♘f6 7.♕b3 ♕c7 8.♗e3 ♘c6 9.♘b5 ♕d8 10.h3 0-0 11.♘d2 ♗e6 12.0-0 ♕d7 13.♔h2 d5 14.♖fd1 d×c4 15.♘×c4 ♕c8 16.♗×c6 ♕×c6 17.♖ac1 ♘d5 18.♘d4 ♗×d4 19.♗×d4 ♕a6 20.♕a3 ♕×a3 21.♘×a3 a6 22.♘c4 ♖ac8 23.a3 b5 24.♘e5 f6 25.♘c6 ♖c7 26.e4 ♔g7 27.e×d5 ♗×d5 28.♘b4 ♖×c1 29.♖×c1 ♗c4 30.♘×a6 1-0

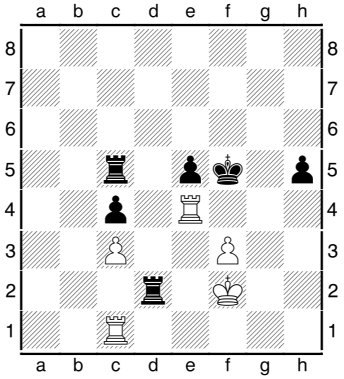
Annotation by Mark Capron:

Krishnamurthy,P (1757) − Capron,M (1352)
[D85] (2)
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.c×d5 ♘×d5 5.e4 ♘×c3 6.b×c3 ♗g7 [the most popular move in this position. My opponent pref−ered the immediate c5.] **7.♗e3** [♗c4 or ♘f3 are the most popular moves here.] **7...0-0** [again black could play c5.] **8.♖c1** [relatively rare, only 44 examples in my database.] **8...a6** [c5 is the most played variation.] **9.h3 ♘d7 10.♘f3 ♘f6 11.♗d3 ♖b8 12.♕d2 b5 13.d5 e6 14.♗g5 e×d5 15.e5 ♕e8 16.0-0 ♘e4⩲ 17.♗×e4? d×e4 18.♘d4 ♗×e5** [18...♗b7! Keeping the pressure on.] **19.♖fe1** [I spent a long time trying to evaluate between f5 and the text.



The move f5 is stronger according to Fritz. I was just very concerned about King safety if I played f5.] **19...♗b7** [19...f5] **20.f3** [Well another chance to play f5 and I choose not to.] **20...♕d7 21.f×e4 c5** [Delusional. I thought I trapped the knight. Silly me.] **22.♘f3 ♕×d2 23.♗×d2 ♗g7** [No says Fritz! Go forward, not backward. “Go back?" he thought. "No good at all! Go sideways? Impossible! Go forward? Only thing to do! On we go!" So up he got, and trotted along with his little sword held in front of him and one hand feeling the wall, and his heart all of a patter and a pitter.” J.R.R. Tolkien, The Hobbit. 23...♗g3 is much better.] **24.♗e3 c4 25.♗d4 ♖fe8 26.e5 ♖e6 27.♖c2 ♖be8 28.♖ce2 f6 29.♔f2 ♗×f3 30.g×f3 f×e5 31.♖e4 ♔f7 32.♗c5 ♗f8?** [Wrong idea. Better was 32...♖d8 33.♗e3 ♖c6 eliminating the tactical threat of a4.] **33.♗×f8 ♔×f8 34.a4 ♔f7?** [achieving equality from a winning position?! Duh?] **35.a×b5 a×b5 36.♖b1 ♖c6 37.♖×b5 ♔f6 38.♖b4 ♖ec8**

39.♖b5 ♖c5 40.♖b7 ♖8c7 41.♖b4 g5 42.♔g3 h5 [42...Kf5 is slightly better here.] **43.h4 ♔f5 44.♔h3 ♖7c6** [44...g4+ 45.♔g3 ♖d7 46.♖b8 ♖d3 47.♖f8+ ♔e6 48.♔g2 g×f3+ 49.♖×f3 ♖×f3 50.♔×f3] **45.♖b1** [Again the g4+ idea is there.] **45...♖d6** [but I had my own ideas.] **46.h×g5 ♔×g5 47.♔g3 ♖d3 48.♖c1 ♔f5 49.♔f2 ♖d2+ 50.♔g3 ♖d3 51.♔f2 ♖d2+**



[thinking a draw was inevitable. However Fritz thinks I should pull my c−rook back to the eighth rank.] **52.♔e3?? ♖d3+** [instead of being aware and finding the win I was thinking about three−fold repetition. 52...♖cd5!! 53.♖d4 ♖2×d4 54.c×d4 e×d4+ 55.♔d2 c3+ 56.♔d3 ♔f4 wins!] **53.♔e2 ♔g5 54.♔f2 ♖d2+ 55.♔e1 ♖d3** [again worried about three−fold repetition. 55...♖h2!] **56.♔e2 ♔f5 57.♖c2 ♔g5 58.♔f2 ♔f5 59.♔e2 ♔g5 60.♖×c4 ♖×c4 61.♔×d3 ♖f4 62.♔e3 h4 63.♔f2 e4 64.♔g1??** [64.c4] **64...e×f3 65.c4 ♔g4 66.c5** [Ok, here Fritz says mate in 31. I know I felt I should win this, but a feeling isn't as good as playing the correct moves.] **66...♔g3 67.c6** [Progress mate in 22 now.] **67...♖e4** [keeping the rook and king on side by side files would be best to avoid what happens in the game. 67...f2+ 68.♔f1 h3 69.♖c3+ ♖f3] **68.♖c1 f2+??** [68...h3 69.c7 h2+ 70.♔h1 f2 71.♖c3+ ♔f4 72.♖c1 ♖e1+ 73.♔×h2 ♖×c1 74.c8♕ ♖×c8 75.♔g2 ♔e3 76.♔f1 ♖c1+ 77.♔g2 f1♕+ 78.♔g3 ♕f4+ 79.♔h3 ♖h1+ 80.♔g2 ♕f3#] **69.♔f1 h3 70.♖c3+ ♔h4??** [Going from totally winning to totally losing. Lucky for me my opponent had not switched gears either and did not find the winning move c7.] **71.♔×f2 h2 72.♔g2 ♖e2+ 73.♔h1 ♖e8 74.c7 ♖c8 75.♖c5 ♔h3 76.♖c3+ ♔g4 77.♔×h2 ♔f5 ½-½**

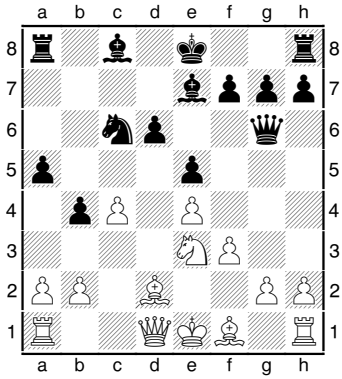
Reynolds,R (2076) − Gaul,T (1825)
[D02] (3)
1.c4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.♗g2 ♗d6 5.d4 0-0 6.0-0 d×c4 7.♕c2 ♘bd7 8.♕×c4 e5 9.d×e5 ♘×e5 10.♘×e5 ♗×e5 11.♘c3 c6 12.♖d1 ♕b6 13.♘a4 ♕c7 14.♘c5 ♗e6 15.♘×e6 f×e6 16.f4 ♕b6+ 17.e3 ♗c7 18.♕×e6+ ♔h8 19.h3 ♖ae8 20.♕c4 ♘h5 21.♖d3 ♘×g3 22.♔h2 ♘e2 23.♖b3 ♗×f4+ 24.♕×f4 ♕c5 25.♕c7 ♖e7 26.♖b5 ♕×b5 27.♕×e7 ♕f5 28.♗d2 ♕f2 29.♗c3 ♕g3+ 30.♔h1 ♖c8 31.♖f1 h5 1-0

Gual,T (1825) − Carson,B (1638)
[A06] (3)
1.♘f3 c5 2.b3 d5 3.e3 ♘c6 4.♗b5 ♗d7 5.♗b2 e6 6.0-0 ♘f6 7.d4 c×d4 8.♘×d4 ♗d6 9.c4 0-0 10.♗a3 ♗×a3 11.♘×a3 ♘×d4 12.♕×d4 ♗×b5 13.♘×b5 d×c4 14.b×c4 a6 15.♘d6 ♕c7 16.♖ab1 ♖fd8 17.♖fd1 ♖ab8 18.♕f4 ♕a5 19.g4 h6 20.h4 ♖d7 21.♘×f7 ♖f8 22.♘×h6+ g×h6 23.♖×d7 ♘×d7 24.♕×h6 ♖f6 25.♕g5+ ♕×g5 26.h×g5 ♖g6 27.♖×b7 ♘e5 28.f4 ♘×c4 29.♔f2 e5 30.♖c7 e×f4 31.♖×c4 f×e3+ 32.♔×e3 ♖×g5 33.♖a4 ♔f7 34.♔f4 ♖g6 35.g5 ♖b6 36.♖a5 ♔g6 37.♖e5 ♖b4+ 38.♖e4 ♖×e4+ 39.♔×e4 ♔×g5 40.a4 a5 41.♔d5 ♔f5 42.♔c5 ♔e5 43.♔b5 ♔d5 44.♔×a5 ½-½

Annotations by Robert Keating:

Keating,R (2188) − Kosokin,V (2172)
[B33] (3)
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 c×d4 4.♘×d4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 e6 6.♘db5 [6.♘×c6!? b×c6 7.e5 ♘d5 8.♘e4 ♕c7 9.f4 ♕b6 10.c4 ♗b4+ 11.♔e2 f5 12.e×f6 ♘×f6 13.♗e3±] **6...d6 7.♗f4** [Jim Hodina showed me this method of transposing to the Sveshnikov Sicilian years ago.] **7...e5 8.♗g5 a6 9.♘a3 b5 10.♘d5** [Sveshnikov Sicilian − more commonly reached after 5...e5 6.♘db5 d6 7.♗g5 a6 8.♘a3 b5 9.♘d5.] **10...♕a5+** [An unspoken draw offer.] **11.♗d2 ♕d8 12.♗g5** [12.c4 ♘×e4 *(12...b4 13.♘c2 a5)*

13.c×b5] **12...♕a5+ 13.♗d2 ♕d8** [Now, 14.♗g5 would be a triple repetition of the position. I knew c4 could be played; however, the lines after ♘×e4 looked sharp and I wondered if Black might know them fairly well, given his choice to enter this variation.] **14.♘×f6+** [14.c4 ♘×e4 *(14...b4 15.♘c2 a5 16.♗g5)* 15.c×b5 ♗e6 16.♗c4 ♘e7] **14...♕×f6 15.c4 b4 16.♘c2 ♕g6 17.f3** [17.♘e3!? is an interesting pawn sacrifice for positional compensation. 17...♕×e4 18.f3 ♕d4 19.♘d5 ♖b8 20.♘c7+ ♔d8 21.♘d5; 17.♘×b4 ♘×b4 18.♗×b4 ♕×e4+ 19.♕e2 ♕b7 20.♗c3 ♗e6 21.b3] **17...a5 18.♘e3 ♗e7** [Suddenly, I became concerned about Black initiating an attack with



♗h4+ and ♗×g3+. The White pieces are bottled up, and ♘d4 in combination with ♕g3+ looked very uncomfortable.] **19.♗d3** [This allows ♗h4+ to be countered in a clearer manner with relative equality and perhaps an advantage for White with 2 minor pieces for a rook and pawn in a relatively closed position. 19.♘d5 is what I really wanted to play, but things looked too wild after that. 19...♗h4+ 20.g3 ♗×g3+ 21.h×g3 ♕×g3+ 22.♔e2 ♘d4+ 23.♔e3 f5] **19...♗d8!** [Excellent! Black will get the bishop to its best diagonal. 19...♗h4+ 20.g3 ♗×g3+ 21.h×g3 ♕×g3+ 22.♔f1 ♗h3+ 23.♖×h3 ♕×h3+ 24.♔f2 ♕h2+ 25.♘g2 ♘d4 26.♕h1=] **20.0-0 ♗b6 21.♔h1 ♗c5 22.♘d5 ♖a7 23.♕e1 0-0 24.♗e3 ♗e6** [White has challenged the dark-squared Black bishop; however, ♗×c5 is no good since the Black knight will become firmly planted on d4 and White's light-squared bishop seems to have no good future.] **25.♕f2 ♘d4 26.f4 ♗×d5** [This seemed a bit surprising. The ♘d5 was certainly a good piece, but now the ♗d3 will have a way out of its prison.] **27.c×d5 ♖c7 28.♖ac1** [28.♕h4!? f6 29.f×e5 d×e5 30.♕h3 ♖d8±] **28...♖fc8?** [Black's mistake is subtle, and I totally missed the opportunity it presented.] **29.♖c4** [29.f×e5 d×e5 30.♖×c5! ♖×c5 31.♗×d4 Amazingly, the ♗d4 cannot be taken since after e5, the ♗d3 cannot be taken either due to the threat of ♕×f7+ and mate on f8. 31...e×d4? *(31...♖c1 32.♗×e5+-)* 32.e5 f5 *(32...♕h5 33.g4+-)* 33.♗×f5 ♕e8 34.♗e6+ ♔h8 35.♗×c8 ♖×c8 36.♕×d4+-] **29...♗b6 30.♖×c7 ♖×c7 31.f×e5** [31.♕h4!? ♕f6 *(31...f6 32.f×e5 d×e5 33.♕h3 ♕f7 34.d6 ♖c5 35.♗×d4 e×d4 36.e5)* 32.♕g4 ♕g6±] **31...d×e5 32.♕g1 ♕d6 33.♖c1 ♖×c1 34.♕×c1 ♕c5** [White has the 2 bishops and a protected passed pawn, but the ♗d3 is not good and the ♙d5 can be undermined by f5. Black's ♘d4 is strong and he has optimized the position of his other pieces, except for the king. A draw seems to be the appropriate result.] **35.♕c4 ♕×c4 36.♗×c4 ♗c5 37.♗f2 ♔f8 38.g3 ♔e7 39.♔g2 ♔d6 40.♗d3 ♗b6 41.♗e3** [This time, I offered a draw, and Black agreed. Neither side can make progress without undue risk, and aggressive pawn advances seem equally likely to backfire. This was a solid game for me, although I missed my one big, but difficult to find, opportunity for a win.] **½-½**

Kosokin,Valeriy (2172) − Neal,J (2113) [C12] (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.♗g5 ♗b4 5.e5 h6 6.e×f6 h×g5 7.f×g7 ♖g8 8.♕d3 ♕f6 9.0-0-0 ♘c6 10.h4 g×h4 11.♘f3 ♗d7 12.♖×h4 0-0-0 13.g3 ♖×g7 14.♗e2 ♘e7 15.a3 ♗d6 16.♖dh1 ♘g6 17.♖h6 ♖dg8 18.♕e3 ♕e7 19.♗d3 ♗e8 20.♗×g6 ♖×g6 21.♖×g6 ♖×g6 22.♖h8 ♔d8 23.♘e5 ♖g7 24.♘d3 c6 25.♕h6 ♖g6 26.♕h4 ♔d7 27.♘e2 ♕g5+ 28.♕×g5 ♖×g5 29.♖h7 ♔e7 30.♔d2 ♔f8 31.♘ef4 ♔g8 32.♖h1 ♗d7 33.♘h5 ♖g6 34.♘e5 ♗×e5 35.d×e5 ♔f8 36.♘f6

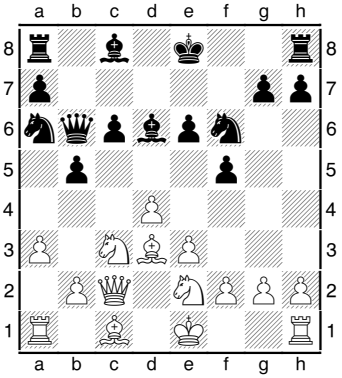
♔e7 37.g4 c5 38.f4 ♗c6 39.g5 ♖g7 40.♖h8 a6 41.b4 1-0

Annotations by James Hodina:

Wan,Joseph (2079) − Hodina,J (1825) [B51] (4)
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 d6 4.0-0 [4.♗×c6+ b×c6 5.0-0 e5 6.b3 f5 7.e×f5 ♗×f5] **4...♗d7 5.c3** [5.♖e1 a6 6.♗f1 ♗g4 7.h3 ♗h5] **5...♘f6 6.♖e1 a6 7.♗a4 b5 8.♗c2 ♗g4 9.h3 ♗h5 10.d3 e6 11.♗f4** [11.♘bd2 Perhaps the immediate knight move is more accurate.] **11...♗e7 12.♘bd2 0-0 13.♘f1 ♘d7 14.♘g3 ♗g6** [14...♗×f3 maybe more in the spirit of this closed position.] **15.d4 ♖c8 16.d5** [16.e5 ⌓d5 seems fine for Black. **a)** 16...d×e5 17.♗×e5 ♘d×e5 18.d×e5 ♗×c2 19.♕×c2 c4 20.♘e4 ♕c7 21.♘eg5 g6; **b)** 16...♗×c2 17.♕×c2 d×e5 *(17...c×d4 18.e×d6)*] **16...♘ce5 17.♖c1** [17.♘×e5 d×e5 (17...♘×e5 18.d×e6 f×e6 19.♗×e5 d×e5 20.♕g4 (It is difficult to decide whether to trade Queens at this point. 20.♕×d8 ♖c×d8 21.a4 c4 22.a×b5 a×b5 23.♖a5 ♗e8 *(23...♗c5)* 20...♕b6 21.♘f1 *(21.c4 b×c4)* 21...c4 22.♖e2 ♗c5 23.♕g3 ♖×f2 24.♖×f2 ♖f8) 18.♗e3 e×d5 19.♕×d5 ♘b6 20.♕×d8 ♖f×d8 21.♖ad1 ♘c4 22.♗c1] **17...♗f6 18.d×e6 f×e6 19.♘h2** [19.♕×d6 ♖c6 20.♕d1 ♘×f3+ 21.♕×f3 ♗g5 22.♘e2 e5] **19...♕b6 20.♘g4 ♘×g4 21.♕×g4 ♖ce8 22.h4 ♘e5 23.♗×e5 ♗×e5 24.h5 c4** [Even better is ⌓24...♗×g3 25.f×g3 c4+ 26.♔h1 ♖f6] **25.h×g6** [⌓25.♘h1 ♖f4 26.♕h3 ♗f7 27.♖e3 ♖f8 28.♖ce1 ♗e8 29.g3 ♖4f7 30.f4 ♗f6 31.♘f2] **25...♕×f2+ 26.♔h2 h5** [26...♖f4 27.♕h3 ♖f3 28.♕×h7+] **27.♕h4** [27.♕×h5 ♕×g3+] **27...♖f3 28.♔h1 ♖×g3 29.♖g1 ♖f8 30.a3 ♖g4 31.♕×f2 ♖×f2 32.--** [32.g3 ♖h4+ 33.g×h4 ♖h2#] **0−1**

Annotations by Jim Hodina and the Cedar Rapids Chess Club:

Saleem,A (2076) − Renolds,R (2076) [A84] (4)
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 c6 4.e3 ♗d6 5.♗d3 f5 [Black sets up a Stonewall] **6.♘ge2 ♘f6 7.♕c2 ♘a6** [seems like ♘bd7 is more thematic to support the e5 push.] **8.a3?!** [This seems to abandon the center.] **8...d×c4?!** [cannot play the thematic e5 right now. 8...e5 9.d×e5 ♗×e5 10.c×d5 c×d5 *(10...♘×d5 11.♗×a6)* 11.♗×f5; 8...0-0 9.f3 ♗d7 10.c5 ♗e7 11.b4 ♗e8 12.♘f4 ♘c7 13.♗b2] **9.♗×c4 b5 10.♗d3 ♕b6**

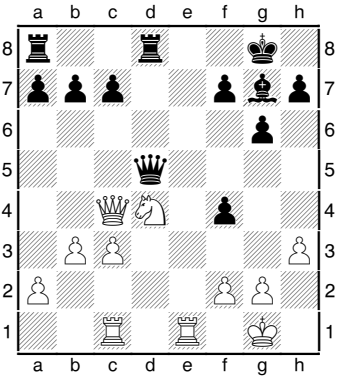


11.e4! [well timed by White. Opening the center up shows the lack of coordination of Black's pieces.] **11...♗e7 12.e5** [White choose to not win the pawn with 12.e×f5 e×f5 13.♗×f5 ♗×f5 14.♕×f5 0-0 15.0-0 and Black is down a pawn his queenside is a mess. 15...c5 16.d×c5 ♗×c5 17.♔h1] **12...♘d5 13.♘×d5 c×d5 14.0-0 b4 15.♕a4+ ♔f7 16.♗d2 ♗b7 17.♖fc1 ♖hc8 18.g3 h6 19.♖×c8 ♖×c8 20.a×b4 −−** [20...♘×b4 21.♗×b4 ♗×b4 *(21...♕×b4 22.♕×b4 ♗×b4 23.♖×a7 ♖c7 24.♗a6)* 22.♕×a7 ♕×a7 23.♖×a7 ♖c7 24.♗a6; 20...♘b8 21.♕×a7 ♕×a7 22.♖×a7 ♖c7 23.b5 ♖d7 24.♘c3] **1-0**

Annotations by Robert Keating:

Brashaw,Dan (2210) − Keating,R (2188) [B07] (4)
[Dan and I have a perfectly even record against each other, although not for lack of trying by either of us. He has finally had a breakthrough year, culminating in the achievement of National Master status, and I believe he has the potential to progress beyond the lowly edges of 2200.] **1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♗g7 3.♘f3 d6 4.h3 ♘f6** [Pirc Defense with an offbeat system for White.] **5.♗d3 0-0 6.0-0 ♘c6 7.c3 e5**

8.d×e5 ♘×e5 9.♘×e5 d×e5 10.♕e2 ♗e6 11.b3 [The appearance of White's bishop on a3 will be unpleasant; however, Black has a way to counter that by inflicting some pre−emptive unpleasantry on White.] **11...♘h5!** [The threat is ♘f4, forcing White to part with his dark−squared bishop. The minor weakening of Black's pawn structure will actually be welcome since it will open the long diagonal for his own dark−square bishop.] **12.♗c4 ♘f4 13.♗×f4 ♗×c4 14.♕×c4 e×f4** [White's position is more solid, but Black has greater activity and the advantage of bishop versus knight in an open position.] **15.♘a3 ♕e7?** [Although this move seemed attractive on the basis of furthering Black's development with tempo against the ♘a3, it is actually a mistake since the tempo is wasted on "forcing" White to do something he wanted to do anyway, which is moving the knight to a more central location. Better would have been to offer the weak f4-pawn in sacrifice to open the White's king position while White remained relatively behind in development. 15...f3! 16.g×f3 *(16.♖ad1 ♕e7 17.♘b5 f×g2∓; 16.g3 ♕d7 17.♔h2 ♖ad8∓)* 16...♕g5+ 17.♔h1 ♗e5 18.♖g1 ♕f4 19.♖g3 ♕d2-+] **16.♘c2 ♕e5?** [Another mistake encouraging White to do what he wanted to do, anyway! Continuing with development or again playing f3 would have been better. I had intended to follow ♕e5 with c5 and f3 or ♕×c3; however, after the knight appeared on d4, I had a change of heart since my intended line of play was not as good as I originally thought. 16...f3! 17.g3 ♖ad8 *(17...♕d7 18.♘e1 ♕×h3 19.♘×f3=)* 18.♖fd1 c6 19.♘e1 ♕f6 20.♖d4∓] **17.♘d4 ♖fd8?** [Argh! Three mistakes in a row! This time, I moved the wrong rook. I imagined that play would proceed mainly on the queenside when it really was necessary to keep focus on the center. 17...c5 18.♘e2 ♖ad8∓ *(18...f3 19.g×f3 ♕g5+ 20.♔h1 ♕h5 21.♔g2 ♕g5+ 22.♔h1=)*] **18.♖ac1** [Precision by White.] **18...♕×e4?** [I thought I was doing fine, but apparently, I was playing a horrible game. This pawn grab again encourages White to do what he should do, anyway, and it sets me up for a terrible blunder on the next move.] **19.♖fe1 ♕d5??** [This should have lost on



the spot, although White gave me too much credit and failed to consider all the forcing moves at his disposal.] **20.♕×c7?** [played relatively quickly. 20.♖e8+! ♗f8 21.♕×d5 ♖×d5 22.♖×a8+- and White has won a whole rook for a pawn!] **20...♖ac8 21.♕×f4 ♗×d4 22.c×d4 ♖×c1 23.♖×c1** [Draw offered and accepted. I was very lucky to have escaped with 1/2 point after failing to do better earlier when I had an advantage out of the opening. Both of us will undoubtedly be more vigilant next time.] **½-½**

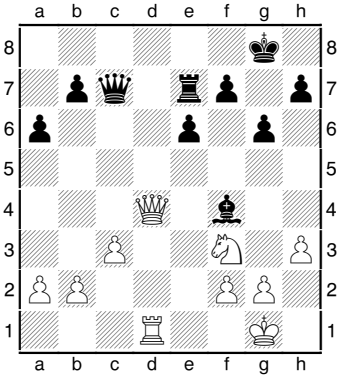
Hodina,J (1925) − Brashaw,Dan (2210) [A49] (5)
1.♘f3 ♘f6 2.d4 g6 3.g3 ♗g7 4.♗g2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.a4 c6 7.♘c3 ♘bd7 8.a5 ♕c7 9.h3 e5 10.d×e5 d×e5 11.♗e3 ♖e8 12.♖a4 ♘f8 13.♗c5 ♖d8 14.♕c1 ♗e6 15.♘g5 ♘6d7 16.♗e7 ♖e8 17.♗a3 ♖ad8 18.♘ge4 ♘f6 19.♘c5 ♕c8 20.♖b4 ♗×h3 21.♖×b7 ♗×g2 22.♔×g2 ♘e6 23.♖×a7 ♘f4+ 24.g×f4 ♕g4+ 25.♔h2 ♗h6 26.e3 ♕f3 27.♘5e4 ♘×e4 28.♘×e4 ♕×e4 29.♖e7 ♕f5 30.♖×e5 ♖×e5 31.f×e5 ♕×e5+ 32.f4 ♕×a5 33.♖f2 ♕h5+ 34.♔g3 ♖d1 35.♖d2 ♖×c1 36.♖d8+ ♔g7 37.♗f8+ ♔f6 38.e4 ♖g1+ 39.♔f2 ♕h2+ 40.♔e3 ♕×f4+ 0-1

Carson,B (1638) − Patterson,S (1747) [A40] (5)

1.d4 e6 2.c4 b6 3.e4 ♗b7 4.♘c3 ♗b4 5.d5 ♗×c3+ 6.b×c3 e×d5 7.c×d5 f5 8.e5 ♘e7 9.c4 0-0 10.f4 ♘g6 11.♘f3 ♘a6 12.♗d3 ♘c5 13.0-0 ♘×d3 14.♕×d3 ♗a6 15.a4 ♕e7 16.♘d4 ♕c5 17.♗a3 ♕×c4 18.♕×c4 ♗×c4 19.♖fc1 ♗×d5 20.♗×f8 ♔×f8 21.♖×c7 ♘×f4 22.g3 ♘h3+ 23.♔f1 ♔e8 24.a5 b×a5 25.♖×a5 ♖b8 26.♖a×a7 ♖b4 27.♘×f5 ♗f3 28.♘d6+ ♔e7 29.♖×d7+ ♔e6 30.♖e7+ ♔d5 31.♖a5+ ♔d4 32.♘b5+ ♔e4 33.♘c3+ ♔d3 34.♖c7 ♖b2 35.♖a2 ♖b3 36.e6 ♗h5 37.♘d5 ♗f3 38.♖c3+ ♖×c3 39.♘×c3 ♗c6 40.♘e2 ♘g5 41.♘f4+ ♔e4 42.e7 ♘f7 43.♖e2+ 1-0

Annotations by Robert Keating:

Keating,R (2188) − Neal,James (2113)
[C10] (5)
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 d×e4 4.♘×e4 [Rubinstein French, a change from our last encounter with these colors when Black played the French Steinitz variation in the 2014 Iowa Closed championship and defeated me soundly.] **4...♘d7 5.♘f3 ♘gf6 6.♗d3** [A deviation from more standard lines that proceed 6.♗g5 or 6.♘×f6+. Out of "book," my focus is on development.] **6...♘×e4 7.♗×e4 ♘f6 8.♗d3 c5 9.0-0** [Although reasonable to castle, I should probably have waited until additional development gave a better indication of where to place my king. Also, ♗e3 makes it a bit more difficult for Black to develop. 9.♗e3 ♕c7 10.♕e2 ♗d7 11.0-0 ♗d6 12.d×c5 ♗×c5±] **9...c×d4 10.♘×d4 ♗c5** [The bishop is a bit annoying on this diagonal. I may have done better to counter with ♗e3 instead of ♘b3. 10...♕×d4? 11.♗b5+] **11.♘b3** [11.♗e3 ♗b6 *(11...♕b6? 12.b4 ♗×d4 13.♗×d4 ♕×b4 14.♖b1 ♕e7 15.♗b5+ ♗d7 16.♗×f6 g×f6 17.♗×d7+ ♕×d7 18.♕×d7+ ♔×d7 19.♖×b7+±)* 12.♕d2 0-0 13.♘f3 ♗d7 14.♖ad1 ♗c6 15.♘e5=] **11...♗d6 12.♕f3** [12.♗g5 h6 13.♗b5+ ♗d7 14.♗×d7+ ♕×d7 15.♗×f6 g×f6 16.♕f3 f5 17.♖fd1=] **12...♕c7 13.h3 ♗d7 14.♘d4 a6 15.♕e2?!** [I wasn't sure how to proceed − should have simply continued development. I became a bit fearful of tactical ideas related to advance of Black's e−pawn. 15.♗g5 ♗h2+ 16.♔h1 ♗e5 17.c3 0-0 18.♖ad1 h6 19.♗e3] **15...0-0 16.c3 ♘d5 17.♕c2 g6 18.♗h6 ♖fe8 19.♘f3?!** [not losing, but just weaker than other options. 19.♖ad1; 19.♖fd1; 19.♘e2] **19...♘f4** [19...♗f4 20.♗×f4 ♘×f4 21.♖fd1 ♖ad8⇄] **20.♖fd1 ♗c6 21.♗e4 ♖ad8 22.♗g5 ♖d7 23.♗×c6** [23.♖d2 ♘d5 24.♘d4] **23...♕×c6 24.♗×f4 ♗×f4 25.♖×d7 ♕×d7 26.♖d1 ♕c7 27.♕a4 ♖e7 28.♕d4** [Despite White's flurry of



activity, Black has emerged slightly better. The bishop will be stronger in the ending than the knight. 28.♕e4] **28...e5 29.♕d8+ ♕×d8 30.♖×d8+ ♔g7 31.♔f1 f6 32.♔e2 ♔f7 33.♘e1 e4 34.♘c2 ♗c7 35.♖d5 ♔e6 36.c4 ♗e5 37.♘d4+ ♔f7 38.b3 f5 39.♘c2 ♔e6 40.♘d4+ ♔f6 41.♘c2 ♖c7 42.♘e3 ♔e6 43.f3?!** [It would perhaps have been better to wait on making pawn moves and stick with piece maneuvering. As the position opens, the bishop will be more powerful. 43.♖d8 ♗d6 44.♘d5 ♖c6 45.♖e8+ ♔f7 46.♖h8=] **43...e×f3+ 44.g×f3?!** [Probably another less optimal move. The tempi needed to return my king to the center were probably not as important for the rest of the game as the more durable weakening of my kingside pawns. 44.♔×f3 b5 45.♖d8] **44...♗f6 45.♖d1** [45.♖d3 ♖c8 *(45...b5 46.♘d5)* 46.♘d5 ♗h4 47.♖e3+] **45...♖c8 46.♘d5 ♗h4 47.♖d3** [47.♖d4 ♗g3 48.♖d3] **47...b5 48.♖e3+ ♔d6 49.♔d3 b×c4+ 50.b×c4 ♖b8 51.♖e2?!** [White's pieces are a little less coordinated than they should be. Black can try to wreak havoc with his rook attacking the

White h− and f−pawns, and White is a couple moves away from being able to kick the Black king out of c5. 51.♘c3 ♗f6 52.♘d5 ♗g5 53.f4 ♗h4 54.♘c3=] **51...♔c5** [51...♖b1⁉ This is a bit more daring but ends in equality with energetic play and some "only moves" by both sides. 52.♖e8 ♖d1+ 53.♔c3 ♖h1 54.♘f4 g5 55.♘d3 ♖×h3 56.c5+ ♔d7 57.♖g8 g4 *(57...♖×f3 58.♔d4 ♗f2+ 59.♔c4 ♔e6 60.♖g7 ♗g3 61.♖×g5=)* 58.f×g4 ♗f6+ 59.♔c4 ♖h4 60.♖f8 ♖×g4+ 61.♔b3□ ♔e6 62.c6 ♖g3□ 63.♔c4 ♖g4+ 64.♔b3□ ♖g3□] **52.♘c7 ♖d8+ 53.♘d5** [53.♔c3? ♗f6+ 54.♔c2 *(54.♔b3? ♖d3+ 55.♔a4 ♖×f3-+)* 54...♔×c4 55.♖e6 ♖d7 56.♖c6+ ♔d4 57.♘×a6∓] **53...♖b8 54.♘c7 ♖d8+** [Neither side can make progress without risk of losing. Therefore, a draw was offered by Black and accepted. I could have played better in the opening and middlegame and became a bit lost for a plan. Otherwise, neither side made any big mistakes or had any significant win−ning chances.] **½-½**

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Puzzle Time Answer:

1.e7 f5 [1...♔e4 2.♕d6 ♗×d6 3.♖e3+ ♔f4 *(3...♔d5 4.♗e6#)* 4.f×g3#; 1...♘×e7 2.♖d3+ ♔e4 3.♖e3+ ♔d5 4.b3 ♗×b8 5.c4+ ♔d6 6.♖e6#; 1...♗×b8 2.♖d3+ ♔e5 *(2...♔e4 3.f3+ ♔e5 4.♗×b8#)* 3.♗×b8+ ♔e4 4.f3#; 1...♔c4 2.♖f4+ ♗×f4 3.♕×f4+ ♔b5 4.e8♕#] **2.♕×e5+ ♔×e5 3.♖×f5+ ♔d6** [3...♔e4 4.f3#] **4.♗c5#**

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"This doesn't mean that the modern so-phisticated openings are for GM's only and that less experienced players should stick with offbeat lines. On the contrary, I urge you to play the most complicated opening setups, but on one condition: you should play them not for fashion's sake and not because somebody told you to, but *because of the resulting middlegame positions."* - GM Alex Yermolinsky

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Daniel Medrano (Left) playing James Neal (Right) with Ivan Wijetunge in the background at the Port of Dubuque Open.